№11
Mitsuru Hattori
SANKAREA
undying love

SANKAREA

11

MITSURU HATTORI

Kurumiya Darin Arciento

An expert in zombie research who came to Japan from the southern islands to visit Professor Boyle (Grandpa). She has a strange passion for her research. Despite her looks, she's younger than Rea.

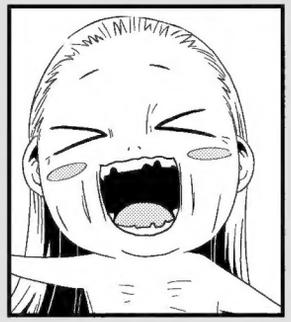
18

Darin's faithful pet. It's been zombified and half-mechanized.

THE FURUYA FAMILY

Dad

His real name is Furuya Dohn. He's the head priest at Shiryohji Temple. He agreed to Rea and Darin living in their home, saying only, "Should be fine, right?"



Grandpa

The very person who first created the reanimation elixir. His name is Jogoroh, but at ZoMA he was called Professor Boyle.

Bub

He was hit by a car and died, but came back to life thanks to the elixir Chihiro and Rea made.

Furuya Mero

A reliable first-year middle school student, she manages all the housework for the Furuya family. She loves to read the Heart Sutra.

STORY

Otoki, a zombie who had been frozen in an ice cave, divulged the truth to Chihiro. Otoki revealed the untold story behind the birth of the elixir and the tragic history that fell upon Jogoroh. When this shocking story touched upon the accident that claimed the life of Chihiro's mother, Yuzuna, Chihiro's memories of his final moments with his mother returned. Chihiro's mother had become a zombie to keep her promise to her children and the gruesome fate that befell her has allowed Chihiro to understand the destiny that awaits all zombies... Following this, Otoki shed this mortal coil in unison with Jogoroh and after parting from Otoki, Chihiro returned home to learn of Rea's sudden turn for the worse. Now, Chihiro readies himself before Rea, who has already begun to attack people...

Furuya Chihiro

A first-year student at Shiyoh Public High School, he's an unusual boy who has loved zombies ever since he was small. He is currently trying all kinds of different things to protect Rea. He once became a half-zombie after Rea bit him.

Sanka Rea

A first-year student at the private Sanka Girls' Academy, she's the daughter of a well-known family but fell to her death trying to escape her father. Afterwards, she returned to life as a zombie girl! As a result of surgery on her brain, she's lost portions of her memories.

Saohji Ranko

Chihiro's cousin and childhood friend, she's one year above him in school, and a second-year student at Sanka Girls'. She's a perky, energetic girl who is on the tennis team. Her nickname is "Wanko."

MITSURU HATTORI presents

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SANKAREA 11

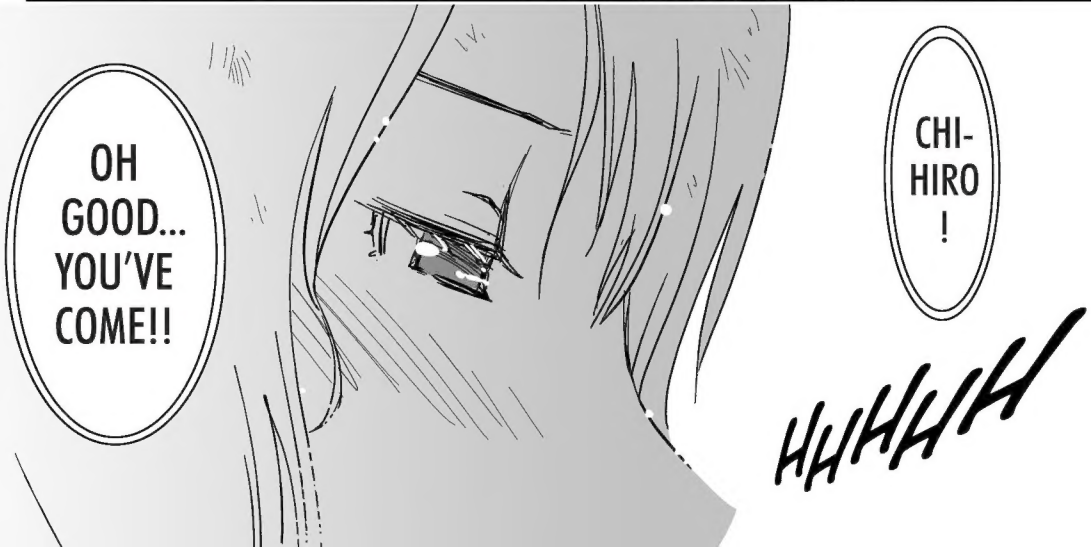
SSSHHHHHH
OHHH ... COME ON.
TODAY REALLY ...
HHHH
...IS JUST THE WORST ...
I DRANK WAY TOO MUCH AND STAYED AT THE BAR UNTIL MORN-ING...
...SO I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO COME STRAIGHT TO SCHOOL EAR-LY TO SOBER UP AND NOW ALL THIS... GIMME A BREAK...

53 BECAUSE... I'LL SEE THEM TO THEIR ENDS...

THE CREEPING FLESH

SSSSHH
THERE'S NO REASON FOR US TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE.
IF THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING, THEN WE SHOULD JUST TURN HER IN TO THE AUTHOR-ITIES.
HH
A ROTTING MONSTER LIKE THAT...

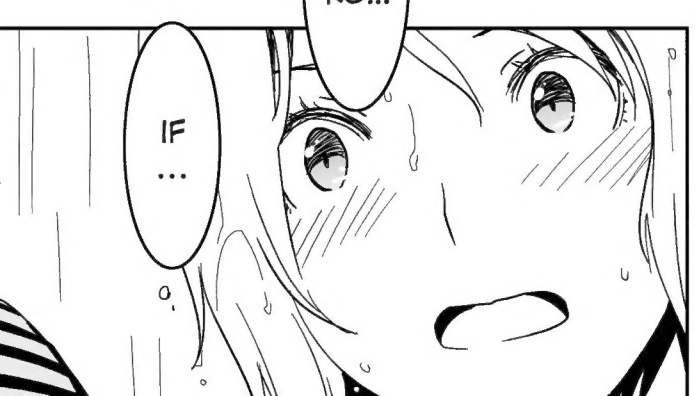
THAT KID WENT INTO THE AUDITO-RIUM ALONE...
...AND I WISH HE'D HURRY UP AND EITHER TAKE HER AWAY SOMEWHERE OR DO AWAY WITH HER!


CHI-HIRO!
HHHHH
OH GOOD... YOU'VE COME!!

REA-CHAN WAS RUN-NING ALL OVER THE SCHOOL UNTIL A MINUTE AGO...
AFTER THAT SHE WENT INTO THE AUDI-TORI-UM...
...SO WE CLOSED OFF THE ENTRANCE FOR THE TIME BEING, THOUGH NOT PER-FECTLY...

HEY, ARE MERO-CHAN AND UNCLE DOHN OKAY ?!
JUST... WHAT THE HECK HAP-PENED TO REA-CHAN ?!

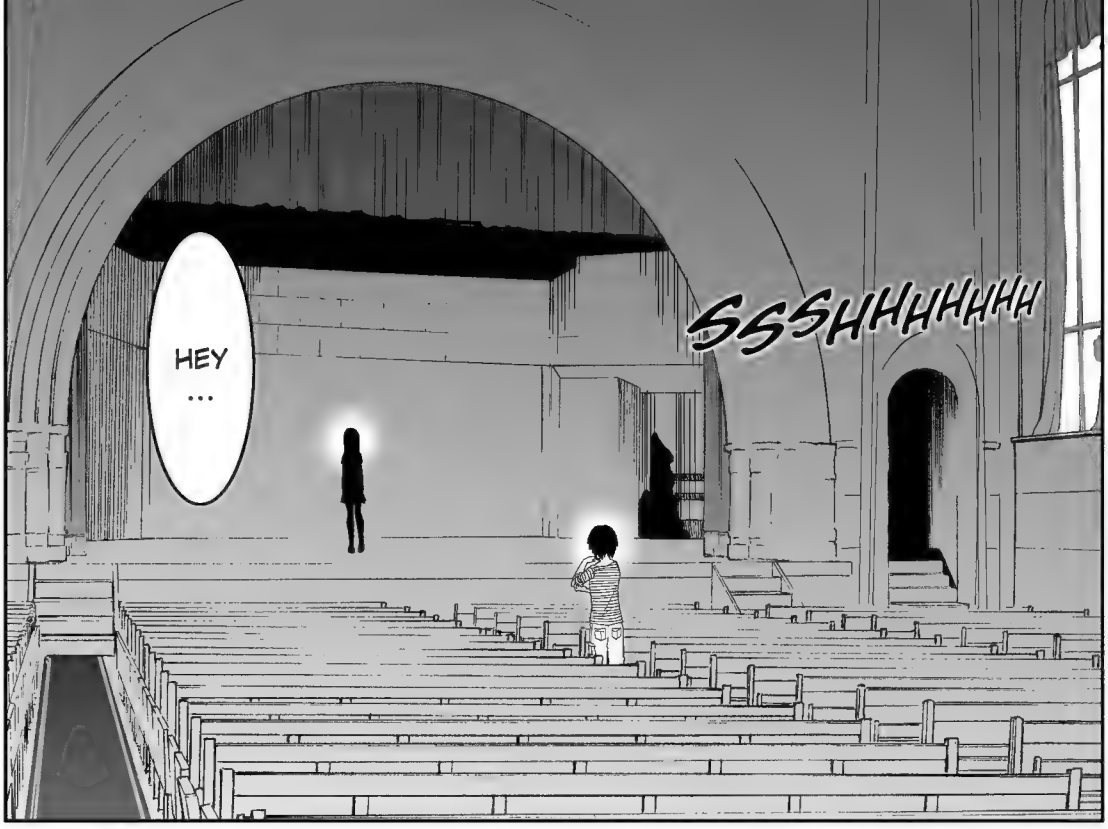
HEY!
COME ON CHIHIRO, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!

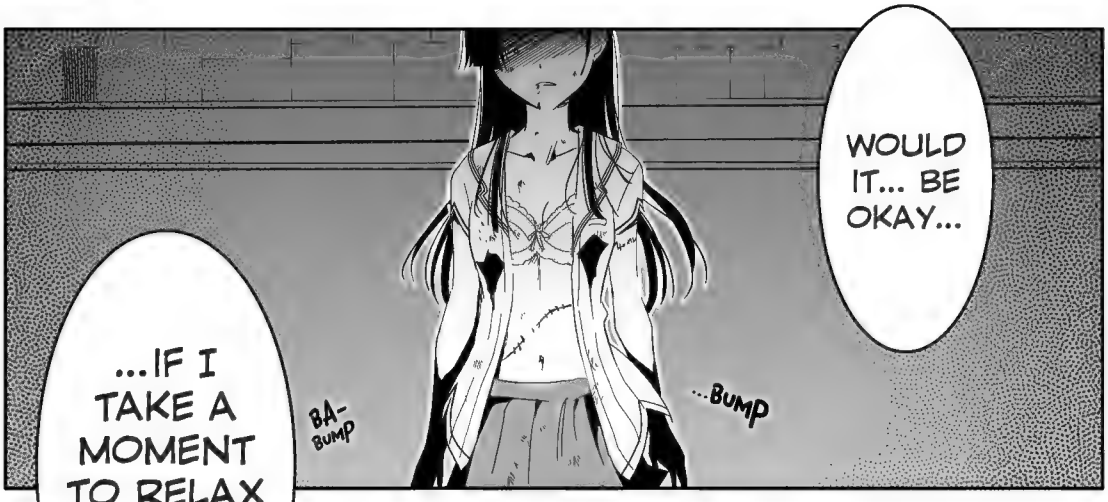

WAN-KO...
IF ...

IF A FULL DAY SHOULD PASS AND I DON'T COME OUT, PLEASE... TAKE CARE OF REA FOR ME.
DA-RIN ...
...WILL KNOW "HOW TO DEAL WITH HER" ...
CLACK
WA... YOU'RE TRYING TO GO IN THERE ALONE? A KID LIKE YOU?!
KA-THUNK
... HUH?
WHAT...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "HOW TO DEAL WITH HER"...?!
SKRR

THAT'S... YOU DON'T MEAN...
SCREEEEEEEEE
WAIT ...!
CHI-HIRO! CHIHI-ROOO!
BA-THUD

I'VE GOT TO TRUST IN HIM...
NO...
SQUEEZE
I'M SURE THAT CHIHIRO WILL... COME BACK SAFELY...


HEY
...
SSSHHHHHHH


WOULD IT... BE OKAY...
...IF I TAKE A MOMENT TO RELAX HERE...?
BA-BUMP
...BUMP

BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP

BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
SURE...
IT DOESN'T... BOTHER ME AT ALL...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
...THIS IS A DANGEROUS GAMBLE I'M TAKING HERE...
BA-BUMP
HEH...
BA-BUMP
HE HE...
HE HE... HEH.
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
A... HAH.
BA-BUMP
THAT I KNOW ...

TAMP
BUT...
WOOMMMM

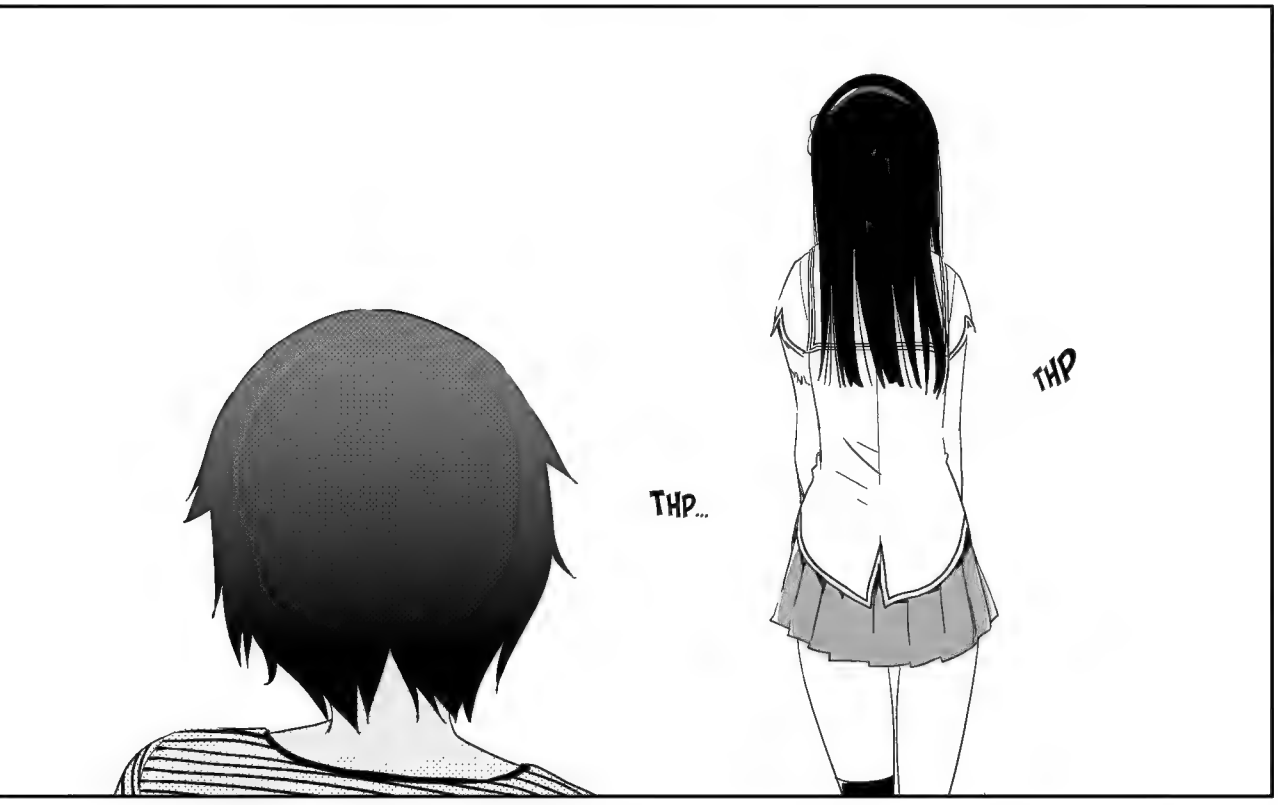
HSOOM
AH
SKRRLL

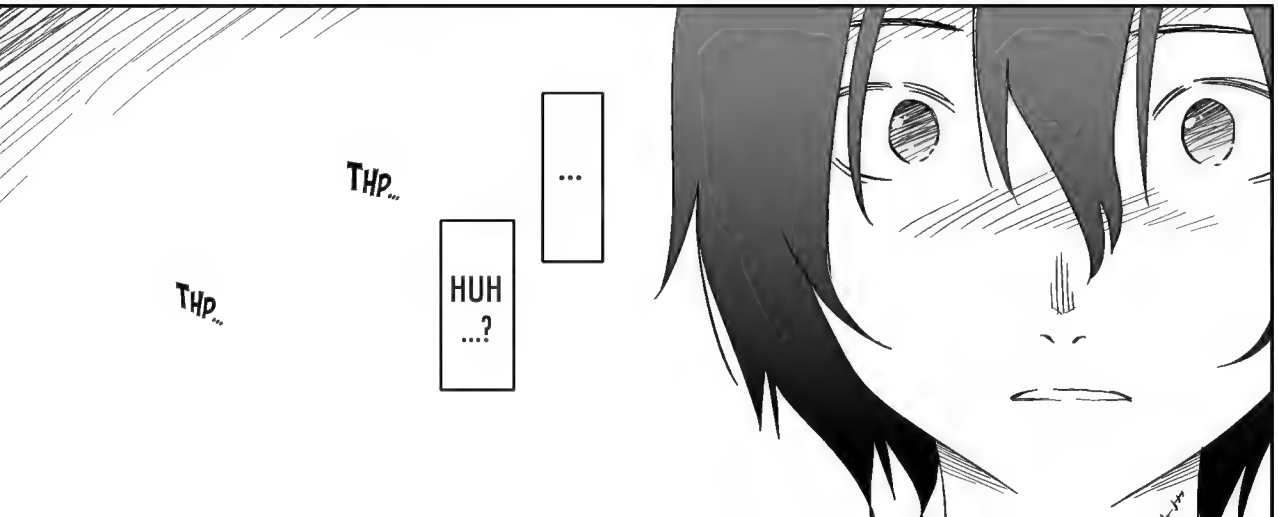
BA-BUMP
HA HA...
BA-BUMP
REA'S STARTED TO ATTACK EVERYONE INDISCRIMI-NATELY...
...AND I HAVE TO REMIND HER OF WHAT SHE REALLY WANTS TO EAT...
HE HE...
HA...
BUMP
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
AHA...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
...GO ON!
BA-BUMP
BITE ME...!!
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP

HAVE A BITE... JUST LIKE THAT TIME....!
BITE ME...!
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
RE-MEM-BER THE WAY I TASTE...!!
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
I TOLD YOU BE-FORE... DIDN'T I...?!
YOU...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
REA...
OOZE...
...ARE THE ZOMBIE THAT I CREA-TED...!!
...NH...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP

WRONG
...

STAND...


THP
THP...


...
THP...
HUH ...?
THP...

IT'S... WRONG ...?
CLKK
CLK
CLK
OH...
FL-FLAPP...

chee
chee
chee
chee
SO YOU'VE GOT A NEST... IN A PLACE LIKE THAT, HUH...?
HEHE ...
FWISHH
MISTER... SWALLOW
AHA...
TAMP
AHA!
HEHE HE...
EHE HE...
GRIP...
...
I SEE...
I DON'T EXIST ...
...INSIDE OF REA...
chee
chehh
GHHH
chhheehhhghh
PHH
cheep

I NO LONGER EXIST TO REA...

SSSSHHHHHHHHHH
I HAVE AN ANNOUNCE-MENT FROM SHIYOH TOWN HALL...
AT THIS TIME, DUE TO THE LOCALIZED DOWNPOUR IN OUR TOWN...
BOOMMM
... A HEAVY RAIN AND FLOOD WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED ...

HHHH
HOBBLE
HMF
HMF
HOBBLE
I RE-PEAT ...
...SO WE ASK THAT ALL RESIDENTS PLEASE AVOID GOING NEAR ALL AREAS ALONG THE RIVER...
SSSUH
SSSUH
THE WATER LEVEL OF THE RIVER IS RISING... AND THE CONDI-TIONS ARE EXTREMELY DANGER-OUS...
FWOOOO
mhhhh...
SSSHHHH
HOBBLE
HOBBLE
VWOOSH
buh-fwuh
BA-BU
SPLSH
SUH-FWUH

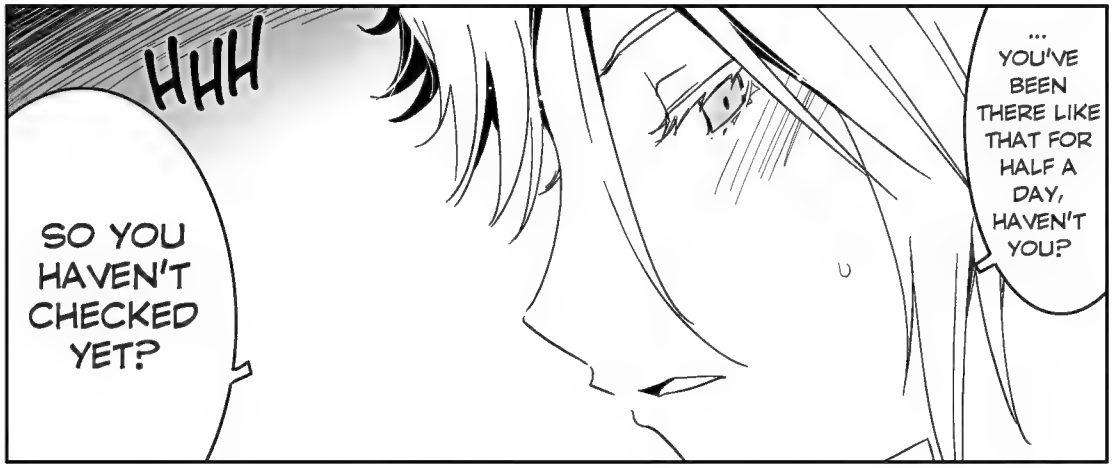
HAHAHAHAHA
buh-fwuh...
BA-BU
HHH
...
Glide...
TWITCH

HHHHH
SSSHHHHHH
RUSTLE
SO YOU'VE ALREADY FINISHED DINNER, THEN?
HH
HHHH

HAVE YOU?
... THANKS.
BUT I DON'T NEED IT.
FL-FLAPP
OH, REA-LLY ...

THUNK
DID THEY ALREADY FINISH UP *INSIDE?*
...SO.

...
SSHHH


HHH
SO YOU HAVEN'T CHECKED YET?
... YOU'VE BEEN THERE LIKE THAT FOR HALF A DAY, HAVEN'T YOU?

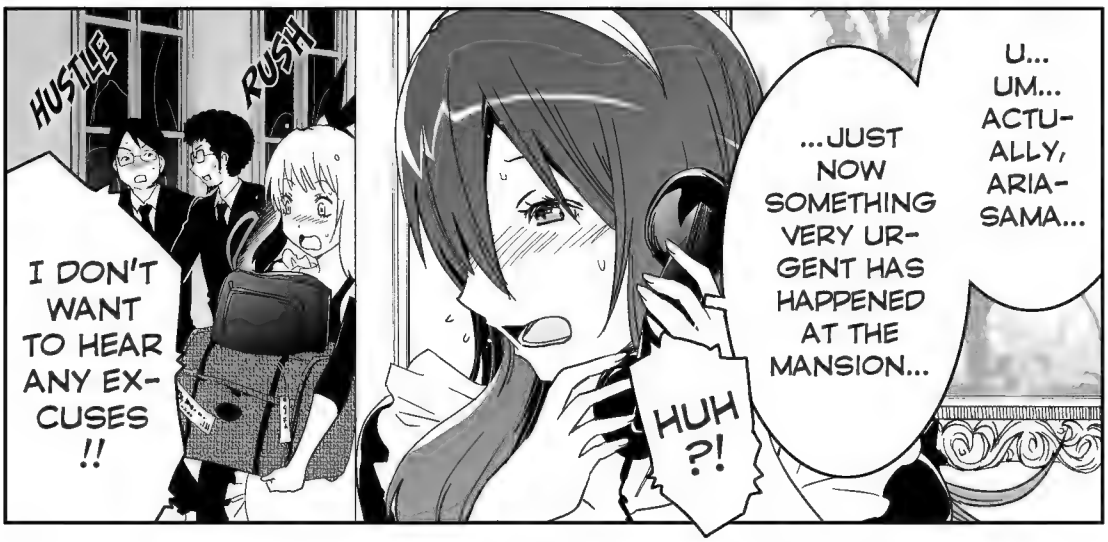
...I PRO-MISED CHI-HIRO ...
...THAT I WOULDN'T UNTIL TOMOR-ROW... MORN-ING...
STAND
... WELL, THEN ...
SHALL I GO CHECK FOR YOU?
DON'T !!
RUSTLE...

...AND CHIHIRO...
...
BOTH YOU...
YOU *REALLY* ARE INEFFICIENT AND STUBBORN, AREN'T YOU...?
...
FINE, THEN.

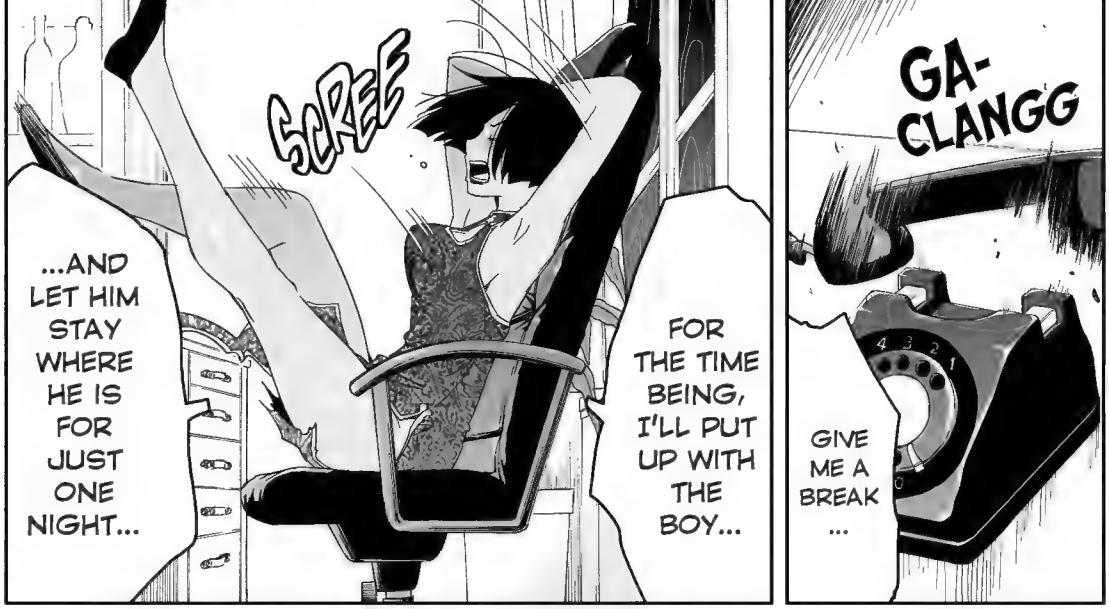
I'LL STAY WITH YOU UNTIL MORNING.
SSSSHHHHH
BUT ONCE IT BECOMES MORNING, IF HE STILL...
I KNOW.

HEY! HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON MAKING ME WAIT?!
I ASKED YOU FOR IT IN THE EVENING, DIDN'T I?! A FRESH CHANGE OF CLOTHES !!
PL... PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
555HHHH!!

...FINE! I GET IT!!
I WANT TO GO RIGHT BACK TO THE ESTATE, YOU KNOW!!
BUT LET ME TELL YOU! EVEN THOUGH I MIGHT NOT SEEM LIKE IT, I'M THE CHAIRPERSON THAT NEEDS TO PROTECT HIS SCHOOL!!
UNLIKE YOU, I'VE GOT SOME "HEAVVYYYY RESPONSIBILITIES"!!
YES...
I KNOW...
TH-TH-THUMP
tremble tremble


U... UM... ACTUALLY, ARIA-SAMA...
...JUST NOW SOMETHING VERY URGENT HAS HAPPENED AT THE MANSION...
HUH?!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY EXCUSES!!
HUSTLE
RUSH

THERE'S NOTHING IN THE WORLD MORE URGENT THAN MY CHANGE OF CLOTHING!!
GRRR
MY CLOTHES ARE ALL SOGGY AND IT'S JUST GROSS!


SCREE
...AND LET HIM STAY WHERE HE IS FOR JUST ONE NIGHT...
FOR THE TIME BEING, I'LL PUT UP WITH THE BOY...
GA-CLANGG
GIVE ME A BREAK ...

...FORGET THE SCHOOL, I'LL MAKE IT SO HE CAN'T EVEN LIVE IN THIS TOWN ...!!
GLARE...
BUT IF HE STILL SEEMS TO BE OCCUPYING THE AUDITORIUM TOMORROW WHEN IT'S TIME FOR CLASSES TO START...

FWOOSH
...JUST LET YOURSELF INTO MY ROOM WITHOUT PER... MIS-SION...
WH... WHO IS THAT ?!
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, HOW COULD YOU...
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.
TWITCH!!

SKRR...

...WILL SEE THE BOTH OF THEM TO THEIR ENDS...

HUH... OH...

WHY ARE YOU ...

CREEE

AS FOR WHY ...

...IT'S BE-CAUSE I...

SKR

SKR

SANKAREA

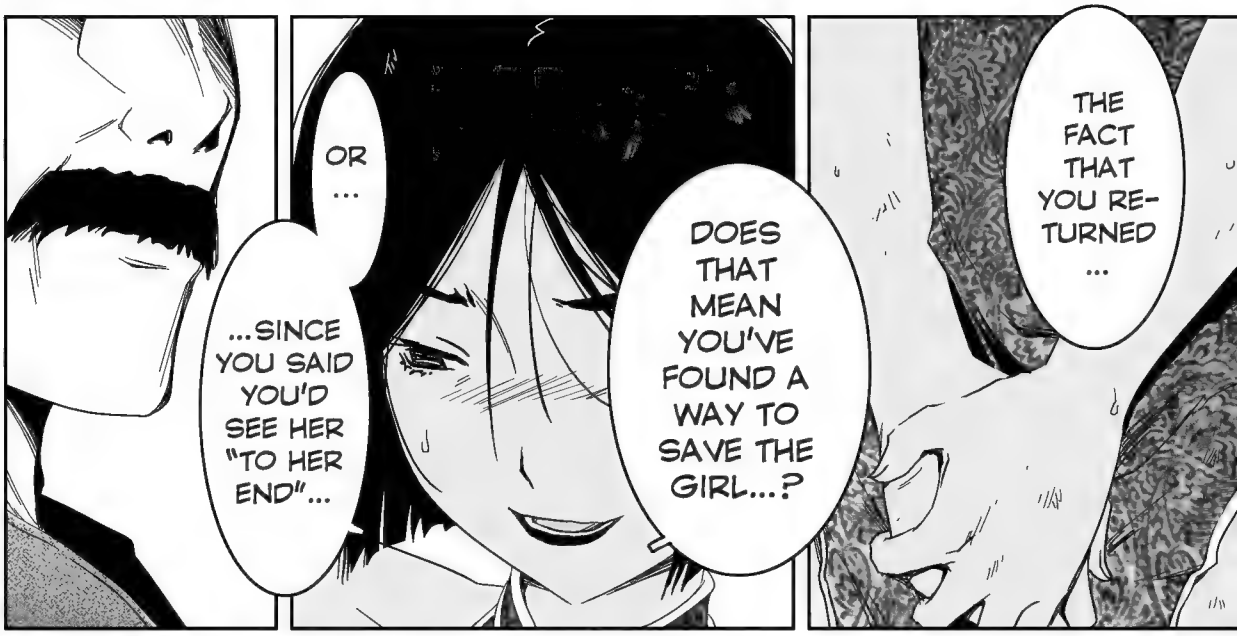
54 AGAIN... STARTING NOW...

✦ ✦ ✦ RISE OF THE ZOMBIES ✦ ✦ ✦

DA... DANI-CHI-ROH-SAN ...?!
WHY... ARE YOU HERE ...?!
DOOOOOMMM
AND MORE THAN THAT... WHY...
... NOW ...?

I PICKED HIM UP WHEN I WENT TO SEE WHAT THE RIVERBANKS WERE LIKE ON MY WAY HERE.
SEE? YOU CAN GO WHERE YOU LIKE.
slide...
WAIT... THAT CAT'S ...
mnf
mnf
EEK!
mbu-hh...
FLAIL
FLAIL
RIGHT NOW, SOME-THING OF THIS DEG-REE...
...IS OF NO IMPOR-TANCE.
MOST LIKE-LY...
...HE CAME RUNNING HERE OUT OF CONCERN FOR HIS MASTER.
D... DARLING, IF YOU TOUCH THE CAT WITH YOUR BARE HANDS YOUR ALLERGIES WILL...
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
...
I HEARD ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION FROM THE PEOPLE AT THE MANSION.

STAND...
SEVERAL HOURS AGO.
WHEN ...
...DID YOU RETURN ?


...SINCE YOU SAID YOU'D SEE HER "TO HER END"...
OR ...
DOES THAT MEAN YOU'VE FOUND A WAY TO SAVE THE GIRL...?
THE FACT THAT YOU RE-TURNED ...

SKR
YOU CAN RETURN TO THE ESTATE NOW.
THERE'S A CAR WAITING DOWN-STAIRS.
SKR
TURN
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO KNOW ANYTHING.

TREMBLE
TREMBLE...
I AM YOUR WIFE, AFTER ALL...
ON TOP OF THAT... MORE THAN ANY-THING...
AFTER ALL, I CAN'T JUST LEAVE OUR CHILD ALONE IN A TERRIBLE SITUA-TION, CAN I?
NO ...
I'LL STAY HERE ...
IS THAT RIGHT...? I UNDER-STAND.
...

THANK YOU.
ARIA.

SSSSHHHHHHHHH
OH...
OF COURSE ...

HEHE...
NH...
EHEHE.
AHEE...
AHA...
AH...

SO PRETTY...
HE HE...
NH...
GLANCE
AHA...
...OH.
turn
CLATTER
STARE...
...

BUUT...
THIS WASN'T IT, EITHER...
AHA
BUB !!
buhh buu
!
YOU... DID YOU COME ALL THE WAY FROM THE HOUSE FOR ME...?!
liff

AHA.
AH...
nbu-hh...

HEY, HEY... YOU OVER-DID IT...
hmf
hmf

I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT I COULD GET HER SENSES BACK TO NORMAL...
...AHH, I KNOW.
buhh Buu...

BUT IN THE END... IT'S NIGHT ALREADY AND I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO ANYTHING AT ALL...
SSHHHHH
...IF I COULD JUST GET HER TO REMEMBER ME LIKE THAT TIME IN THE RUINS...
...AND FIX WHAT'S GONE WRONG WITH REA...

UNTIL NOW, I HAD BELIEVED THAT...
...SOMEWHERE IN THE CORNER OF HER HEART...
...REA "MUST TRULY STILL REMEMBER ME"...
BUT ALL IT TOOK WAS THAT ONE WORD ...
...AND EVERYTHING I HAD BELIEVED UP UNTIL NOW GOT ALL MIXED UP INSIDE MY HEAD...
FOR ME TO BECOME SCARED AND UNABLE TO APPROACH REA...
IT'S PATHETIC, ISN'T IT...?

I CAN'T BELIEVE ...
...THAT I WAS SUCH A COWARD ...!
...NO... THAT'S RIGHT.
THIS IS HOW I'VE ALWAYS BEEN, SINCE LONG AGO.
I WAS BAD AT DEALING WITH PEOPLE FROM MY END...
...AND I ONLY FINALLY BECAME CONNECTED TO THE WORLD...
...AFTER BEING DRAGGED ALONG BY THOSE AROUND ME...

...HOW COULD SOMEONE LIKE THAT— SOMEONE LIKE ME...
plip
... CARRY THE DEST-INY...
...OF A SINGLE GIRL?
THERE'S NO WAY... I COULD HAVE DONE IT ...!!

AHA...
turn...
THAT... MISTER... KITTY THERE...
REAL-LYY...
...LOOKS TASTYY...
HE MIGHT ...
...BE WHAT... I WANT ...
TAP
HEY...
RECOIL
HE... HEHE ...

PLEASE GIVE HIM TO ME...
COME ON...
SKRR
SKR
REA...
YOU... FORGOT ABOUT BUB, TOO ...?!
SKR...
PLEASE GIVE ME...
SKRR
HE WAS THE REA-SON WE MET ...
SKRR
EVEN BUB...
YOU'VE ALREADY ...
NMAHH ...

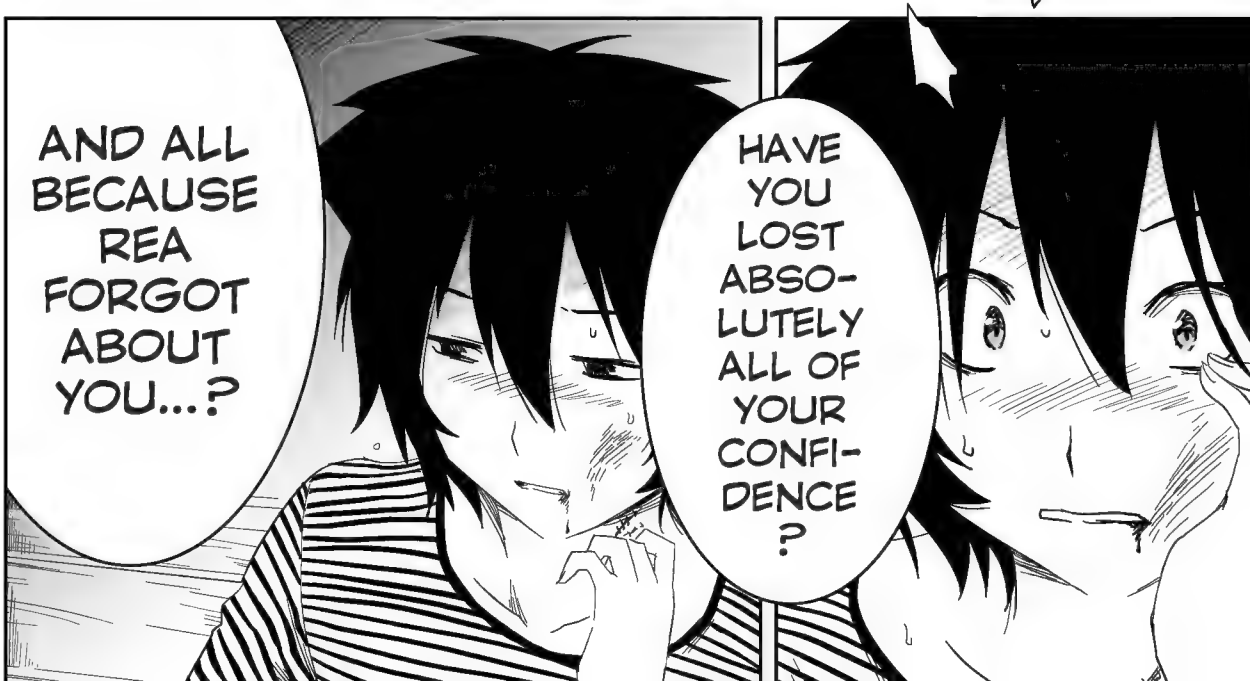
COME OOON...
GIVE MEEE
THAAAAAT!!
NO... BUB'S NOT THE ONE, EITHER...!!
EVEN IF YOU ATE HIM... NOTHING WOULD CHANGE...!!
SKR
GIVE ME.
SKR
GIVE ME.
SKR
SKR
SKR
THE THING YOU REALLY WANT TO EAT...
IS AL-READY...
YOU WON'T...
...BE ABLE TO FIND IT ANY-MORE...!!

SKR
I'M SORRY...
I'M SORRY, REA...
SKR
SKR
SKR
I CAN'T... I CAN NO LONG-ER...
SKR
SKR

FWOOSH
RUSTLE
NHH...
RUSTLE
HHH...
NHH...
HUH?
...
SO THIS IS...
NHH...

...WHAT'S BECOME OF REA...?
IS THIS HER FATE?!
IS SHE DESTINED TO NEVER RETURN TO NORMAL...?!
O...OLD MAN?!
WH...WHY ARE YOU HERE...?!

SLAP!
WOOSH
YOU'VE ALREADY SHOWN ME THE DIRECTION IN WHICH SHE'S HEADING.
OWW ... WHAT ARE YOU ...?
THANK
BWA-HH!


AND ALL BECAUSE REA FORGOT ABOUT YOU...?
HAVE YOU LOST ABSO-LUTELY ALL OF YOUR CONFI-DENCE ?

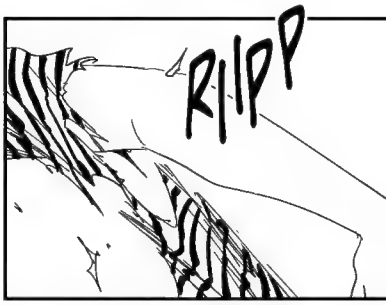
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT YOU CAN'T EXPRESS YOUR OWN FEELINGS...
...TO SOME-ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE...?!
FU-RUYA CHI-HIRO... I'M DISAP-POINT-ED IN YOU.
IS THAT THE EXTENT OF YOUR "FEEL-INGS" TO-WARDS REA ...?!
ARE YOU TELL-ING ME THAT'S IT?!

WATCH OU...
NHA!
GROSHH

OHH...

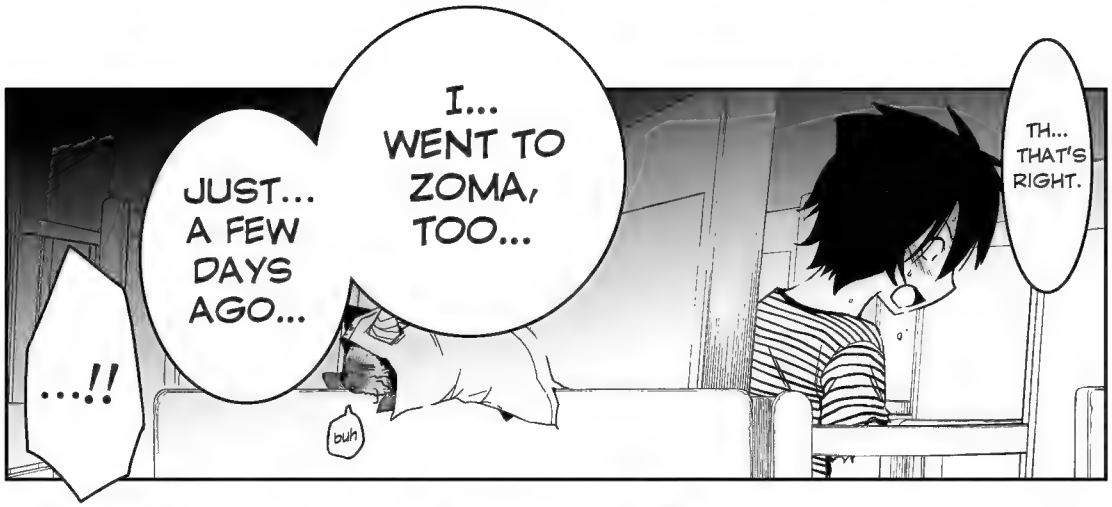
OLD MAN !!
SKR
SPIT
...
WRONG
...

"T... TO A ZOMBIE IN THEIR TURBID PERIOD...
...ANYONE WHO KEEPS THEM FROM FEEDING... IS...
...NO-THING MORE THAN... AN ENEMY" ...RIGHT ?
HUH ?


RIIPP

HANG IN THERE !!
GRIP
NH... KH...

HOW DO YOU ...
...KNOW THOSE WORDS ...?


TH... THAT'S RIGHT.
I... WENT TO ZOMA, TOO...
JUST... A FEW DAYS AGO...
...!!
buh

WHEN I ASKED, WELL ...
...THEY TOLD ME THAT YOU HAD BEEN THERE WITH REA UNTIL JUST A FEW DAYS EARLIER...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I JUST HAPPENED ALONG INTO THE SAME PATH AS YOU TWO...
GLANCE
MISTER KITTY...
WHERE ARE YOU?
GLANCE

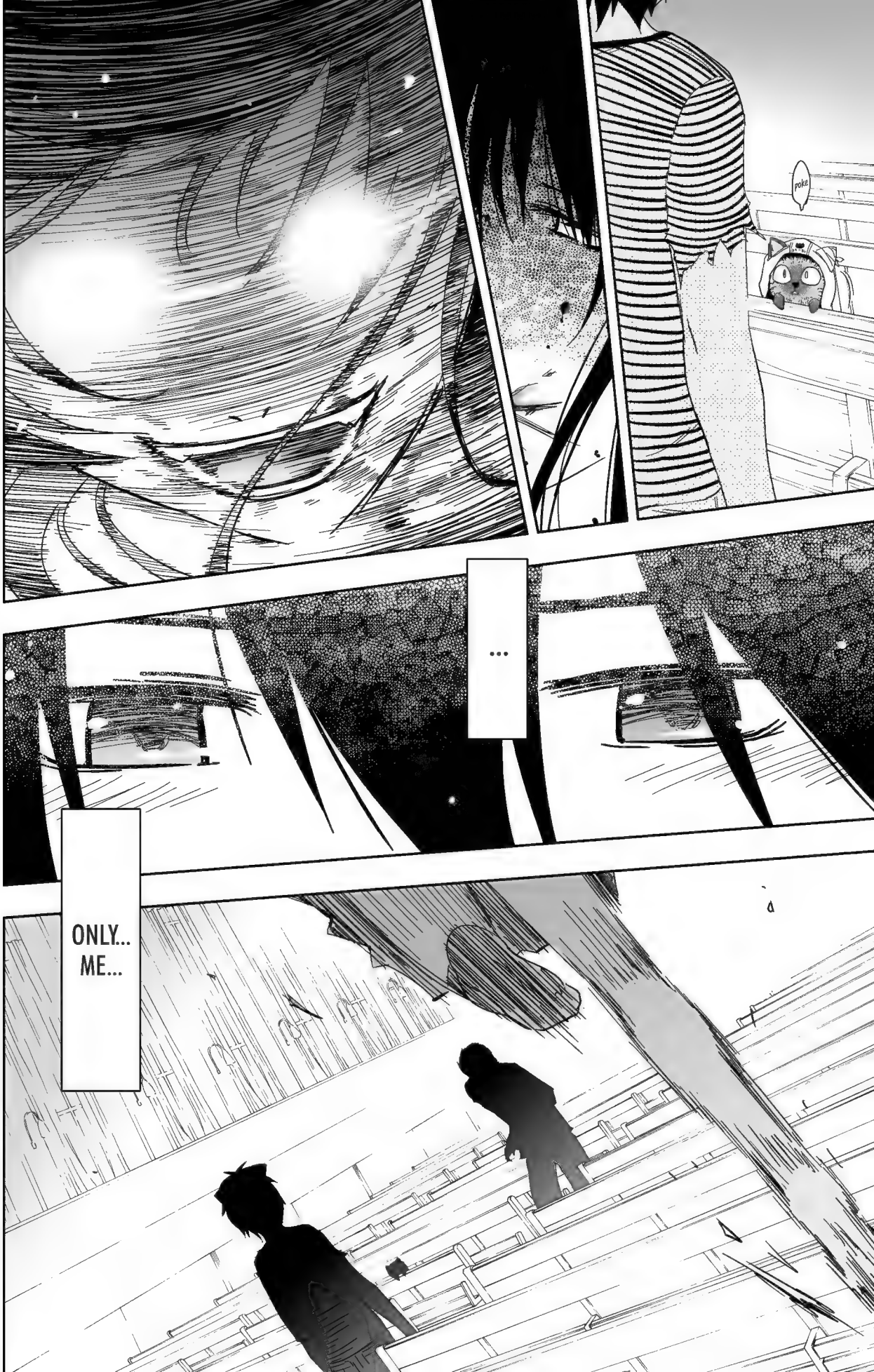
FOR THE PAST MONTH... I'VE BEEN FLYING AROUND THE WORLD, STARTING WITH CUTTING-EDGE MEDICAL TREATMENTS TO MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES...
...AND AFTER MAKING MY WAY AROUND THE MAFIA AND SHADY OCCULT ORGANIZATIONS... I ARRIVED AT ZOMA'S...
HUH... BUT WAIT JUST A SECOND ...
IF YOU WENT JUST A FEW DAYS AGO ... DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU ...
...YES.

I MET... YOUR GRAND-FATHER.
AND... HE TOLD ME EVERY-THING ...
THE REANI-MATION ELIXIR... THE REANI-MATED ...
...AND THEIR FATES ...

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, SO KEEP REST-ING THERE !!
TAP
GHH...
NHH ...
TELL ME ABOUT IT LATER! WE HAVE TO STOP YOUR BLEED-ING AND NEUTRAL-IZE THE POISON NOW...!!
GHH ...
HE... WARNED ME THAT... I NEEDED TO BE PRE-PARED... FOR WHAT COMES NEXT...
RAISE...

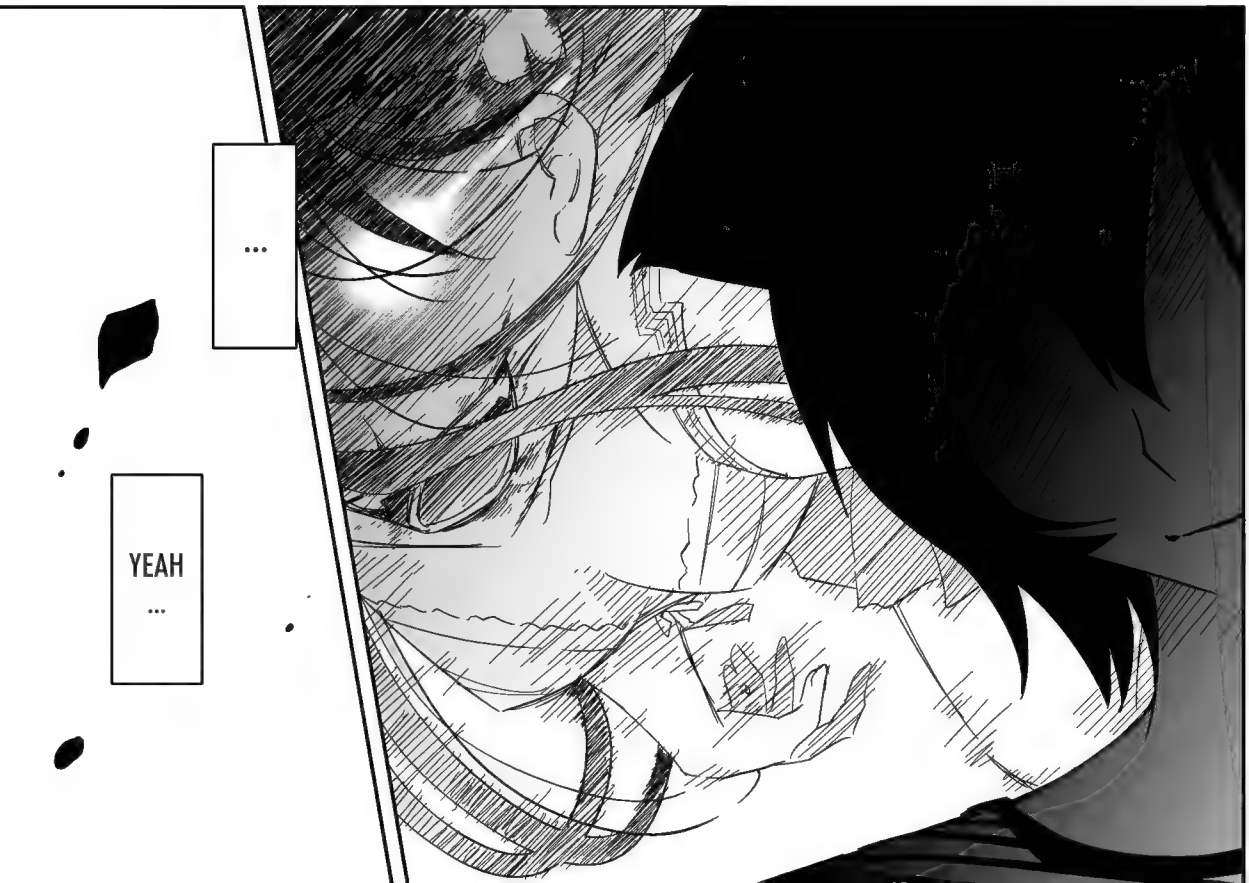
AHA...
I CAN WALK ON MY OWN...
WOBBLE...
DON'T MIND ME...
H...HEY NOW, ARE YOU SOME KIND OF MON-STER...?!
NHUHH!
FWOSH
...WASN'T BECAUSE I HAD GIVEN UP ON EVERY-THING...
huff
huff
...
THE REASON I RETURNED TO THIS COUNTRY
...

EVEN WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE... I BELIEVED THAT IF I COULD JUST FULFILL REA'S "FEELINGS"... HER "WISHES"...
OR MAYBE... A "MIRACLE" MIGHT HAPPEN...!! THAT'S WHY I CAME BACK!
AND ... NOW ...
...THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD DO THAT...
...IS YOU...
YOU ARE... THE ONLY ONE...


poke
...
ONLY...
ME...

ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT YOU CAN'T EXPRESS YOUR OWN FEELINGS...

...TO SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE...?!



...MET SUDDEN-LY...

WE ...

WE HAD WALKED ALONG COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PATHS IN LIFE...

TO BEGIN WITH...

THAT'S RIGHT ...

...

IF THAT'S HOW IT WAS ...

...STILL HADN'T KNOWN ANYTHING ABOUT EACH OTHER...

...A SITUATION WHERE WE...

...AND EVERY-THING BEGAN FROM...

...NO ISSUE ...
THEN THERE'S ...

...WITH STARTING AGAIN RIGHT NOW...

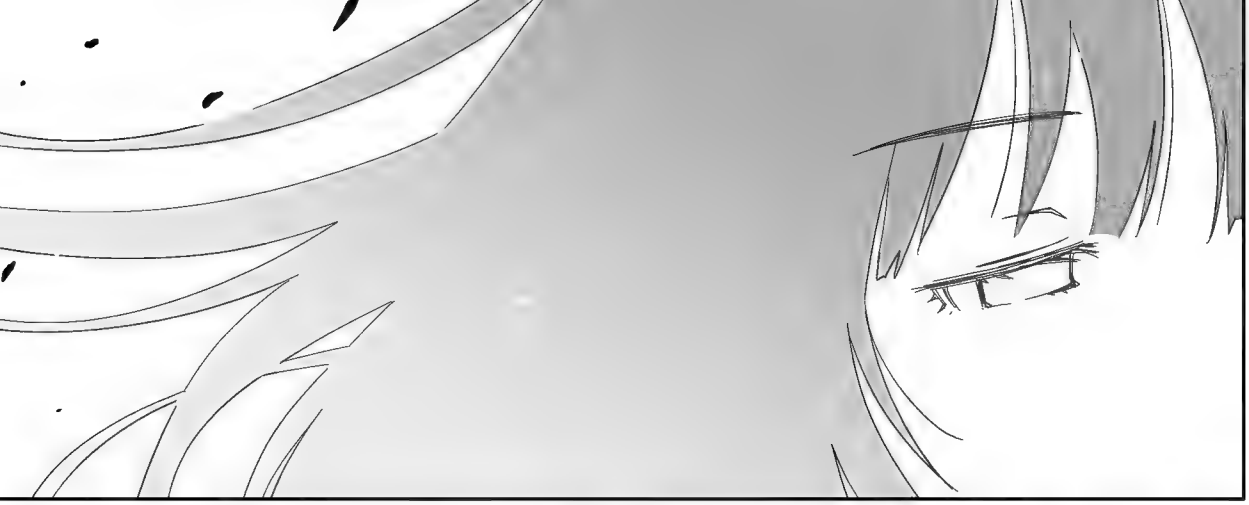
SANKAREA

55

SANKA... REA...

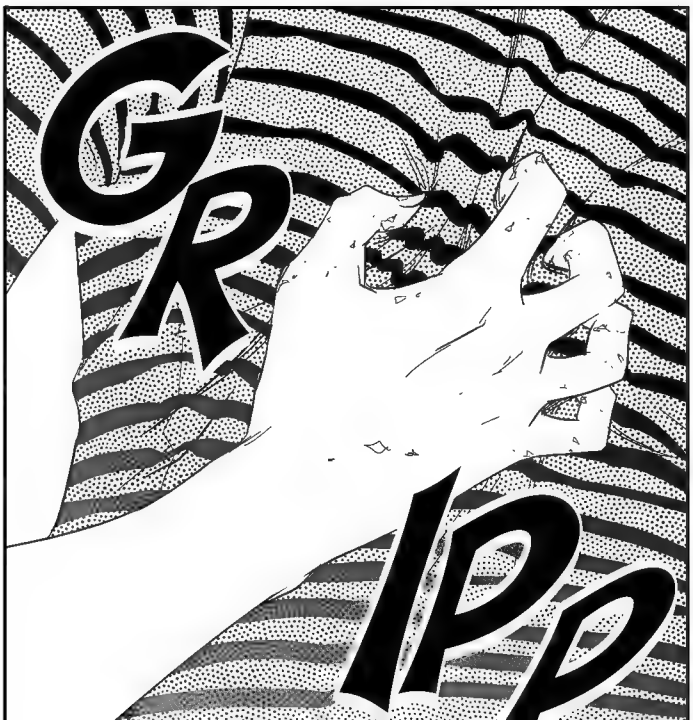
✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ZOMBI2 ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
SKSHH
NIBBLE
BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
SKH
SKSHH
BA-
BUMP
SK
SUCK
BA-
BUMP
KISS



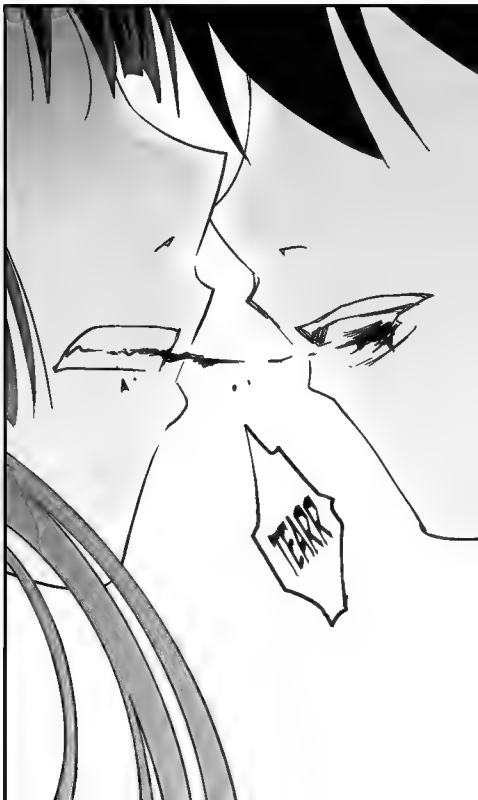
Huh...?

This...
taste...



I... know it?
It's... wrong?
I don't... know it?
It's not... wrong?

...OH.


TEAR

OWWW
...

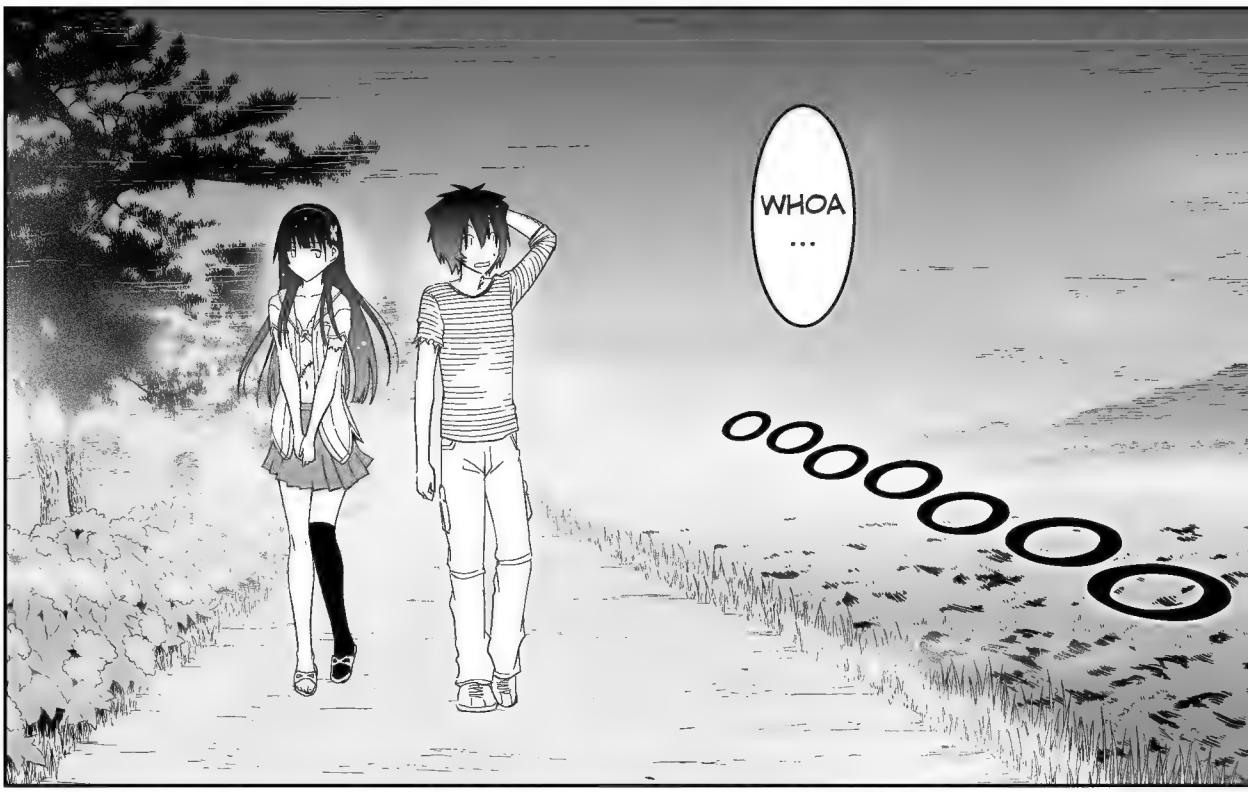
SLUMP
I GUESS IF YOU TAKE A KISS HEAD-ON LIKE THAT...
...YOU'LL END UP WITH TEETH CRASHING INTO EACH OTHER... OH, OW OWW...

UM... YOU'RE ...
HUH... OH... IT'S NO BIG DEAL ...
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T KNOW ME...

...I DON'T KNOW YOU.
OR RATHER... I, UM...
I'M SORRY... TO DO SOMETHING SO STRANGE ALL OF A SUDDEN.
SINCE YOU CAME FLYING AT ME SUDDENLY, I WENT ALONG WITH IT...
AND SOMEHOW... JUST LIKE THAT...
HUH... OH.
YEAH ...
NO ...
I SHOULD BE THE ONE APOLOGIZING.
BOW
squee
OH... COULD THAT HAVE BEEN... YOUR FIRST KISS... OR SOMETHING?!
... NO
IT PROBABLY... WASN'T MY FIRST.
STAND...
HMM ...
OH... BY THE WAY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

MY... NAME ...?
UHM... HUH... ?
HEY, HEY... YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR OWN NAME?
NO... I REMEMBERED IT UNTIL JUST BEFORE... HUH?
Bub? Dari? Mero?
OH.
IT ISN'T RAINING ANY MORE.
HUH ...
AH.
WELL THEN, IF YOU CAN'T REMEMBER RIGHT AWAY, THEN DO YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE FOR A BIT?
RATHER THAN BEING SHUT UP IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
...IT MIGHT BE EASIER FOR YOU TO REMEMBER YOUR NAME IF YOU HAD A CHANCE TO BREATHE SOME FRESH AIR, RIGHT?
...

VVVOOOO


WHOA
...
OOOOOOOO

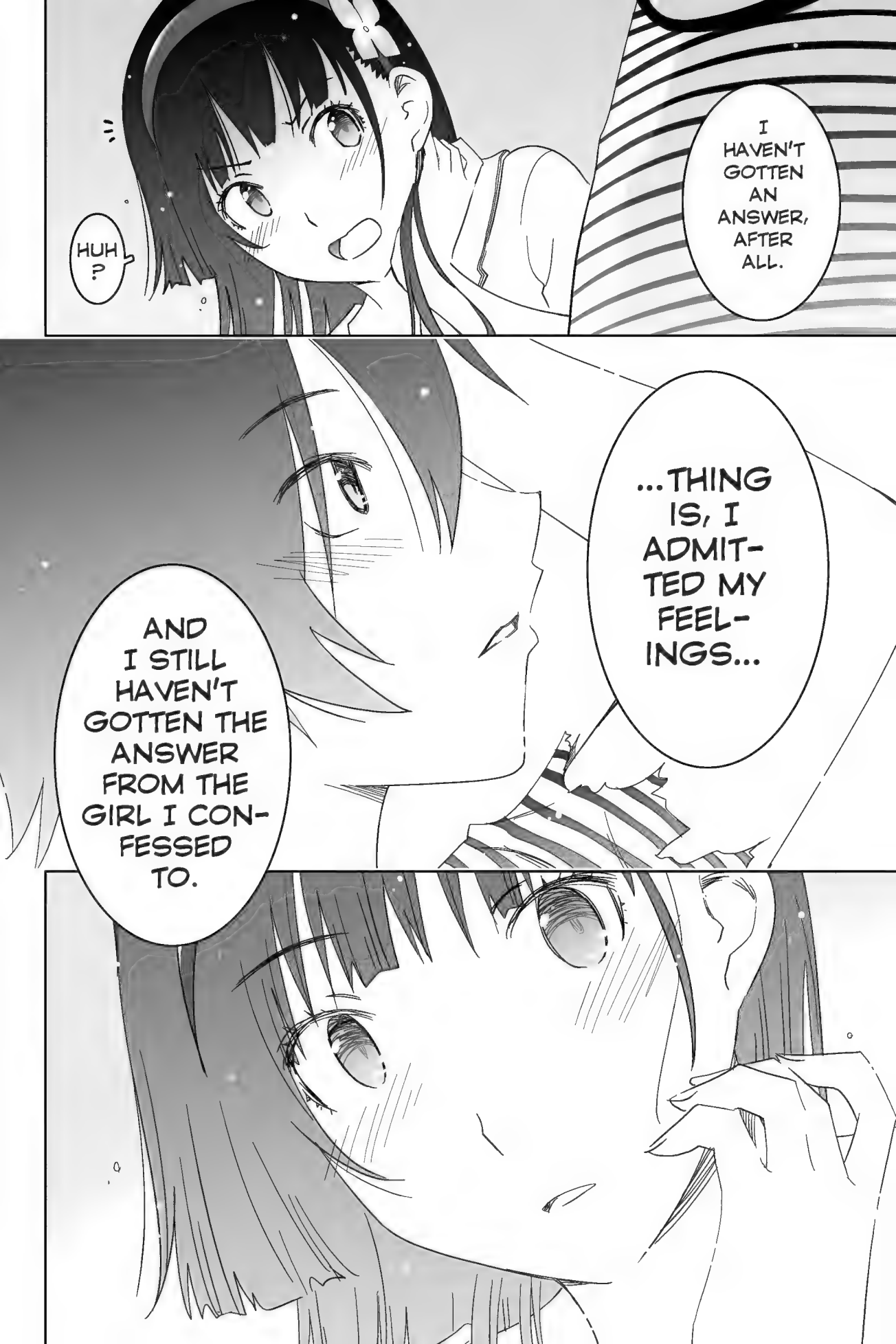
...
UHM
...

chill...
THIS MIST IS CRAZY...
You can hardly see the other side of the river.
OOOO

NO... I JUST...
YOU GOT ME MORE INTER-ESTED NOW.
WHAT IS IT ...?
HM ?
OH ...
NO-THING ...
I THOUGHT... THAT I'D WALKED ALONG THE RIVER WITH SOMEONE LIKE THIS BEFORE.
NH ...
...HEY, SO...
... DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU'RE ...

A SKANK ...?
...AND ON TOP OF THAT, WITH THE WAY YOU'RE DRESSED ...
... HUH?!
WELL... I MEAN, YOU WERE SAYING THAT YOU KISSED AND WALKED WITH ALL KINDS OF GUYS BEFORE...
hmph
hmmhh?
THAT'S... WHEN I WAS CHANGING I MADE A MISTAKE AND ALL THE BUTTONS CAME OFF...!
Y... YOU'RE WRONG! T... THIS IS JUST...

O... ON TOP OF THAT, I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING ABOUT "ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE"!
I MEAN... I STILL HAVEN'T OFFICIALLY GONE OUT WITH ANYONE OR ANYTHING ...
HUH? AND YET YOU'VE AL-READY HAD THE EXPERIENCE OF KISSING SOME-ONE...
IT... IT WAS SOME-THING THAT JUST HAPPENED IN THE MOMENT! I'M SURE...
OH... HOW ABOUT YOU THEN ?
glance
HAVE YOU EVER GONE OUT WITH ANYONE BEFORE ...?
HMM ...
NOT... OFFI-CIALLY, I GUESS ...
SEE! SO ARE YOU REALLY IN A POSITION WHERE YOU CAN SAY THAT TO SOMEONE ELSE... ?!


I HAVEN'T GOTTEN AN ANSWER, AFTER ALL.
HUH?
...THING IS, I ADMIT-TED MY FEEL-INGS...
AND I STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE ANSWER FROM THE GIRL I CON-FESSED TO.

CL-CLACK
CL-CLACK
CL-CLACK
OH.
CL-CLACK
THE FIRST TRAIN ...
WELL THEN... SHALL WE HEAD BACK ABOUT NOW?
...
YES ...
YOU CAN'T!
GASP

"...YOU HAVE TO WORK HARDER ...
...TO LIVE WITHOUT REGRETS !!"
HUH ?
SINCE ...

CL-CLACK
SINCE ...
CL-CLACK
THAT'S RIGHT ...
CL-CLACK
...THE TRAINS HAVE STARTED RUN-NING...
...WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY GOING... A LITTLE FARTHER... AWAY...?
FOR EXAM-PLE...
CL-CLA

NH...
I'VE... ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY GOING TO A ZOO ONCE.
cree
HUH... YOU'D NEVER BEEN ?!
cree
cree
WELL... I WENT JUST ONCE FOR A SCHOOL EVENT...
cree
BUT UHM ...
cree

SLURRP
STAB
STAB
STAB
HMM.
...
STAB
IN MY PRIVATE LIFE... NOT EVEN ONCE...
SKRR
cree
UMM ...
THERE'S ACTUALLY ONE MORE PLACE I'D LIKE TO GO TO...
...
GLANCE
cree
cree
cree
OH... DO YOU MEAN ...?

SPLOOSH

WHOA! THAT WAS REALLY AMAZING !!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
IT'S FULL-ON EVENING NOW, ISN'T IT?
TAP TAP
HM ?
... WELL, HOW ABOUT IT?
ABOUT WHAT ...?
HEY, HEY, ...
WAHH!
BAM

HAVEN'T YOU REMEMBERED IT YET?
YOUR NAME.
THE NAME.
...
NO ...
I GUESS ... NOT YET...
UM ...
I...
OH, IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY TIME, THEN I DON'T WANT TO FORCE YOU...
IT'S NOT THAT ...
...
I THOUGHT IF WE WALKED A LITTLE MORE ...
...THEN I MIGHT... REMEMBER... OR SOMETHING...

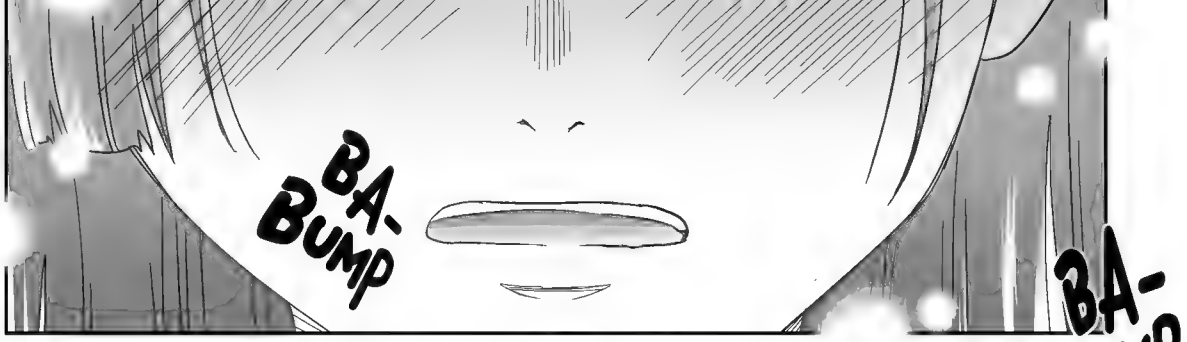
SANKA REA.

YOUR NAME IS...

I... ACT-UALLY ...

... KNOW ... YOUR NAME.

BA-
BUMP
YOU'RE THE PERSON I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR AN ANSWER FROM...

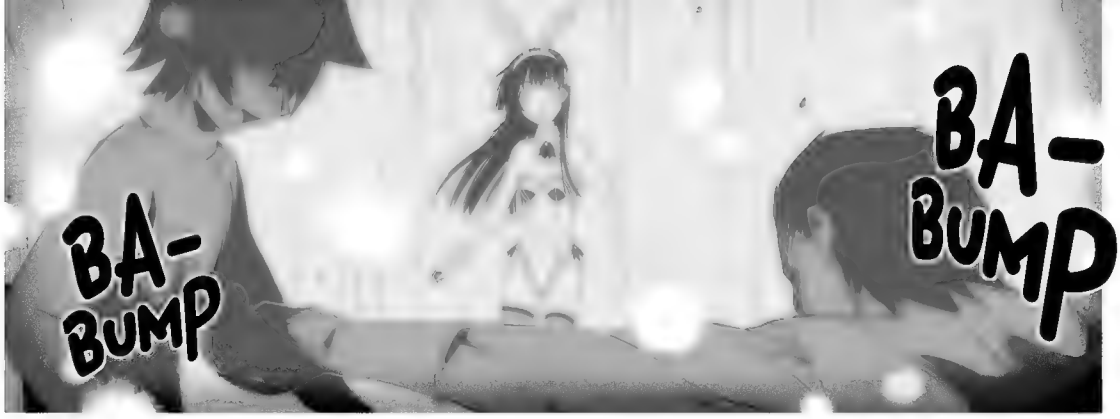

BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP

...Oh...

BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP

...I... see...

BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP
BA-
BUMP



...My... my... name is...

...Sa...n.....ka...Re...a...

FURUYA... CHIHIRO... KUN...
SWIPE
HEH.
FOR A MO- MENT THERE ...
...I WAS THINKING THAT EVEN IF YOU DRANK MY BLOOD...
drip
drip
...YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER WHO I WAS ANYMORE...

drip
OH...
The person whose answer I was waiting for...
drip
I'M GLAD I TOOK IT TOO FAR.
I...
drip
I...
drip

I...
...loved you...
FU-RUYA KUN ...
I... ALSO...
... SINCE I... FIRST MET... YOU...
I'VE ALWAYS... ALWAYS...

LOVED YOU...

FURUYA...
KUN?

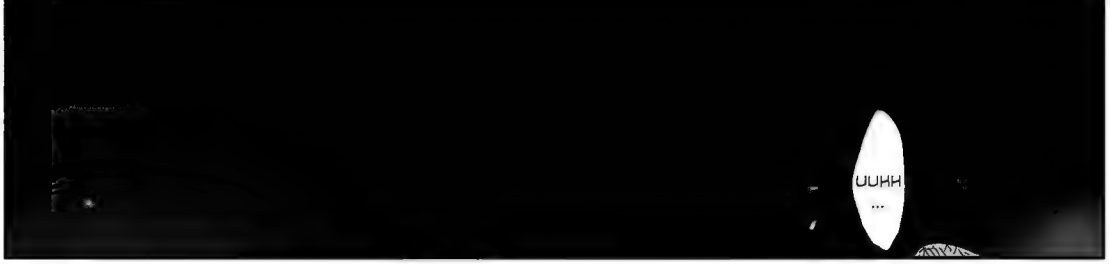
...
HUH
...

WHERE ARE YOU ...?
FU-RUYA-KUN ...?
HEY... DID YOU HEAR ME ...?
MY...
...AN-SWER TO YOU...
OH...

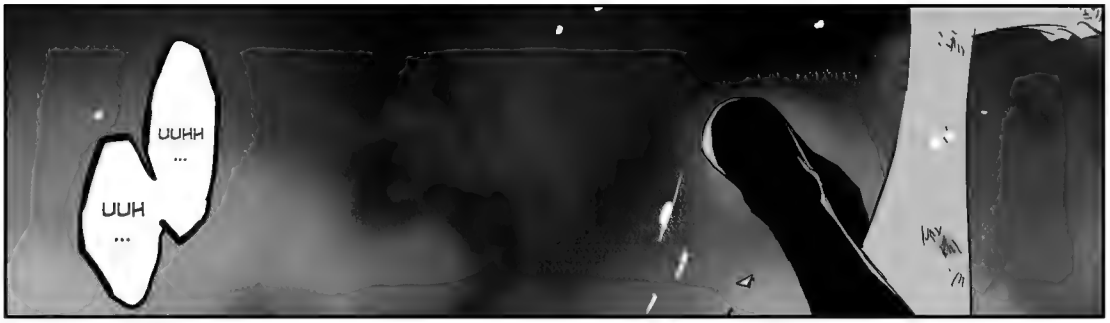
NO...
THIS... TEXTURE...
OOOOOOMMMMMM
THIS SMELL...
IT CAN'T BE...
I...
THIS TASTE...

SINCE THAT TIME...
FURUYA... KUN...
...I ATE ALL... OF HIM...

SANKAREA

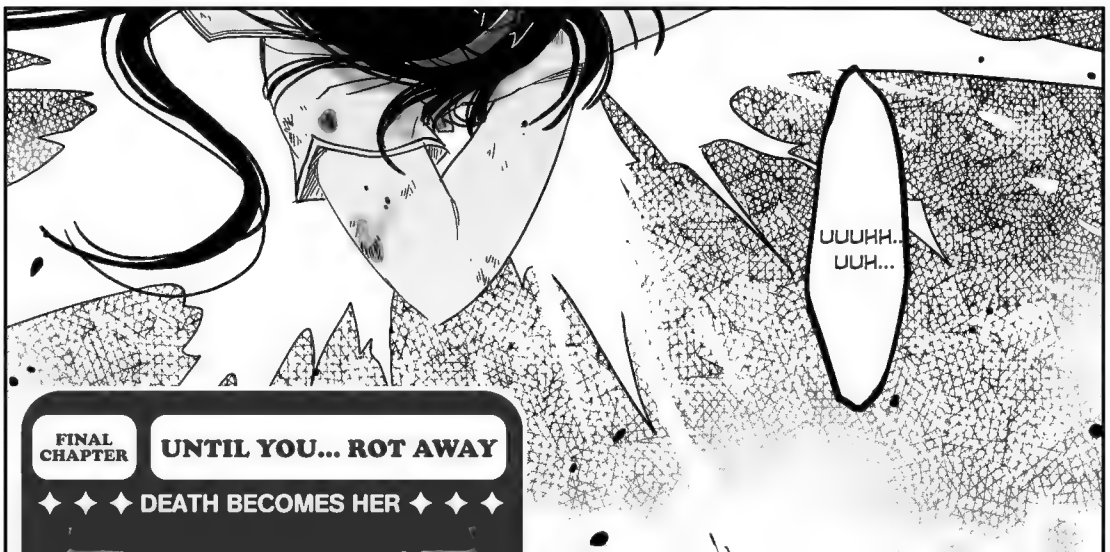


Happiness... for a... zombie...



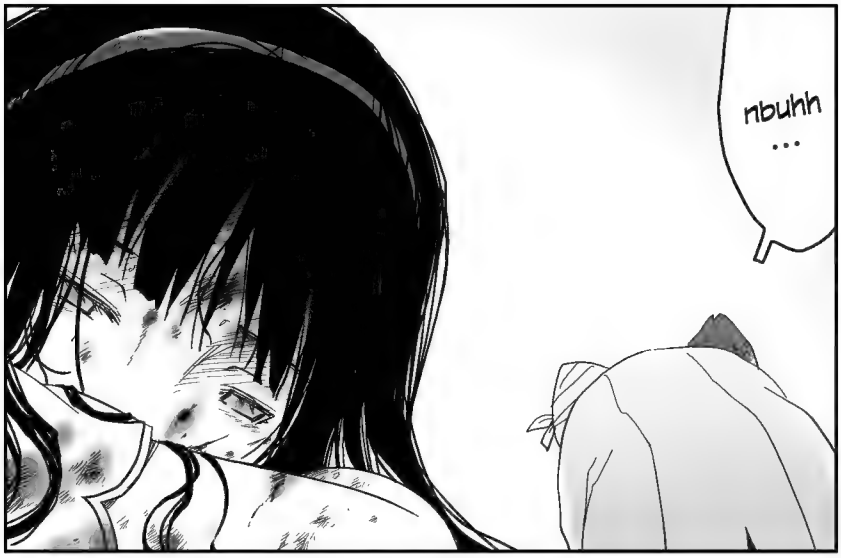
That is...

The thing they... love... most of all...



UUH
...

BA-BU
UUH...
UUH.
POKE


nbuhh
...

UUUHH
...
UUH...
PLOP

glide...
BA-BU
...
NH.
TWITCH

IT WAS CLOSE ...
...BUT I STILL... HAVEN'T FOR-GOTTEN YOU...
BUB... CHAN...
IT RE-MAINED DEEP INSIDE MY HEAD...
PURR PURR
bub bub
...MY MEMO-RIES... AND RECOL-LECTIONS ...
FURUYA-KUN BROUGHT ME BACK TO LIFE...
... THAT'S RIGHT.

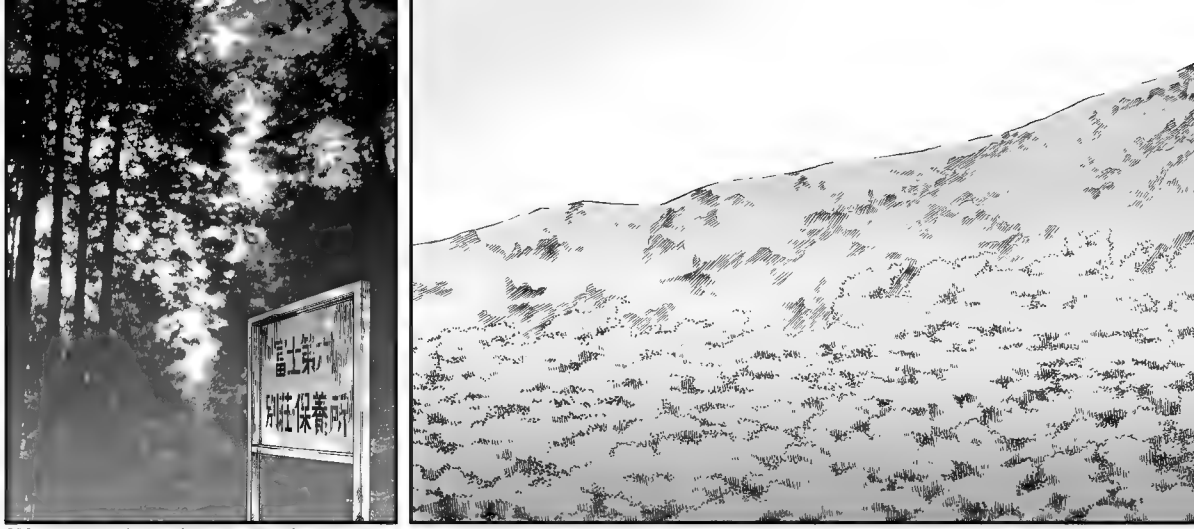
WHILE ...
...I WAS IN A WAKING DREAM...
...AND WHEN I CAME TO MY SENSES ...

TH... THIS IS IT...
THIS IS IT...
THIS IS IT...
THIS IS HIT!

I'M SURE... THAT WAS HOW...
...MY "HEART" WAS RE-TURNED TO ME...
BUT ...
BUT... SOME-THING LIKE THIS...
... MEANS... NOTHING ...

IF FURUYA-KUN IS GONE...
... THEN IT'S... ALL... POINT-LESS...
UUHH ...
...

Later...



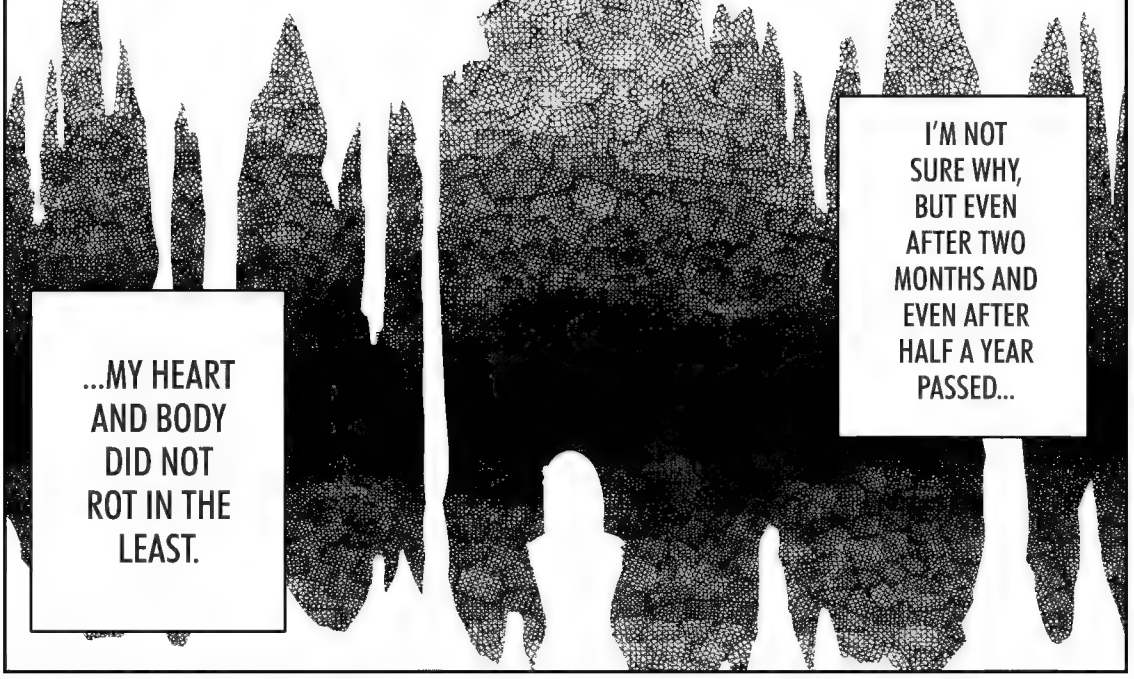
SIGN: Fuji No. 6 Villa & Recreation Center

twee
twee
twee...
twee
twee...

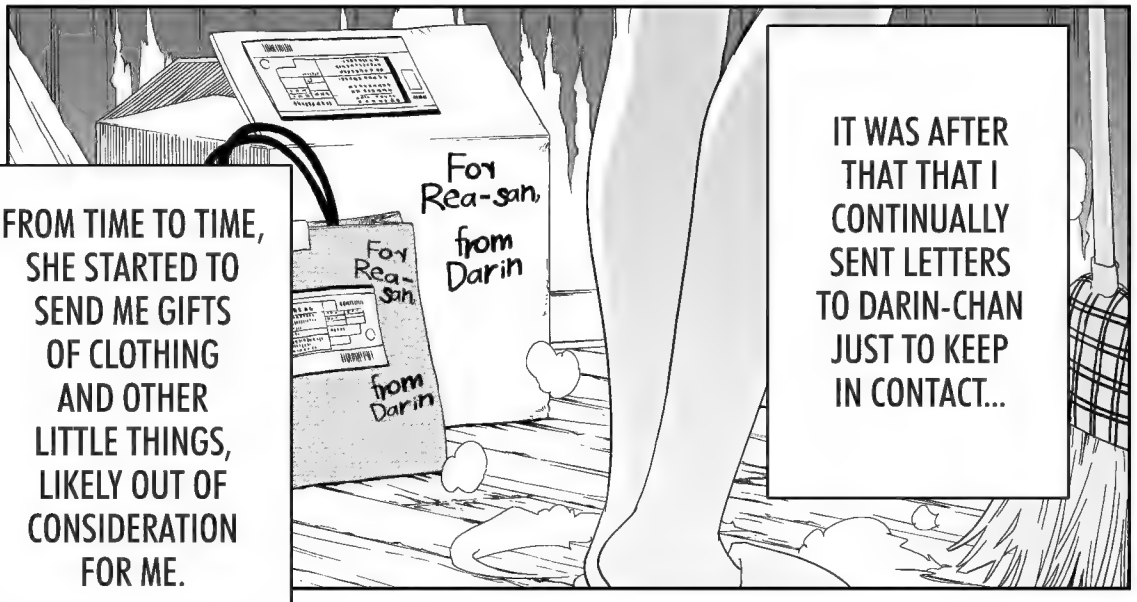
MUNCH
tweep twee twee
SNAP
FL-FLAPPP
HMM.
QUITE THE NICE GARDEN.

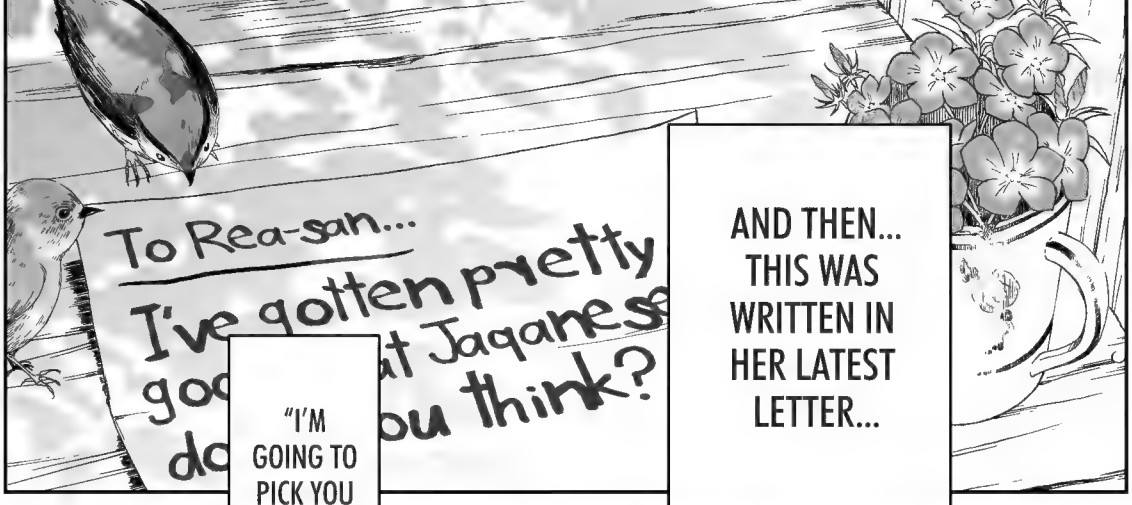
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT...?
REA-SAN.
AFTER THAT ...

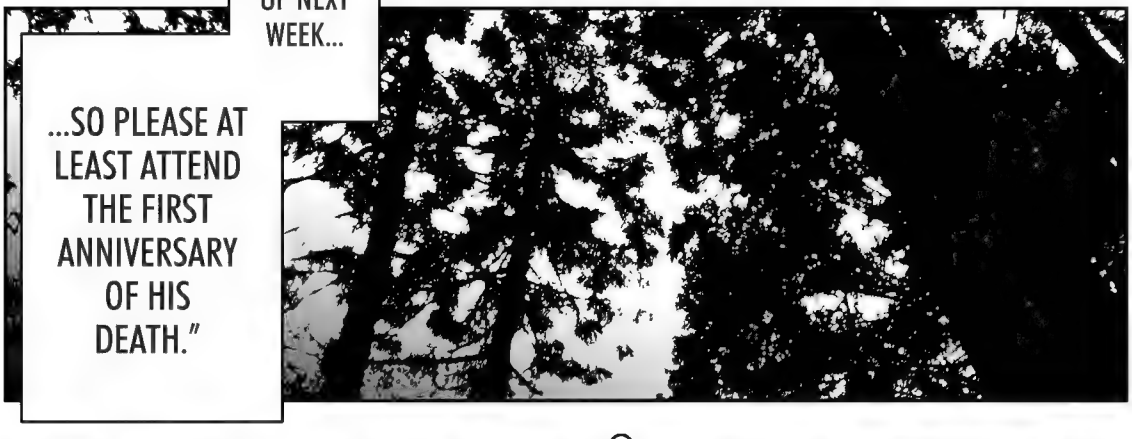
...IN SPITE OF EVERY-ONE'S ARGU-MENTS...
...I DECIDED TO LIVE IN THE ICE CAVE THAT WE HAD ONCE VISITED.
THIS WAS BECAUSE AFTER FINALLY EATING FURUYA-KUN... I REALIZED THAT I SHOULD NO LONGER LIVE IN THE SAME WORLD AS HUMANS...
AND FOR THAT REASON... I FELT THAT I SHOULD FINISH OUT WHAT LITTLE REMAINING LIFE I HAD LEFT...
...WITH GRATITUDE AND ATONEMENT IN MY HEART... IN THIS PLACE WHERE THE TWO OF US SHARED MEMORIES...
BY THE WAY ...


I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT EVEN AFTER TWO MONTHS AND EVEN AFTER HALF A YEAR PASSED...
...MY HEART AND BODY DID NOT ROT IN THE LEAST.

DURING THAT TIME, I LEFT THE ICE CAVE AND STARTED TO WANDER THE WIDE OCEAN OF TREES AND GREENERY IN THE AREA...
I THEN BEGAN LIVING IN AN ABANDONED RESORT AREA THAT I FOUND AT THE TIME.


IT WAS AFTER THAT THAT I CONTINUALLY SENT LETTERS TO DARIN-CHAN JUST TO KEEP IN CONTACT...
For Rea-san, from Darin
For Rea-san, from Darin
FROM TIME TO TIME, SHE STARTED TO SEND ME GIFTS OF CLOTHING AND OTHER LITTLE THINGS, LIKELY OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR ME.
By sending them to be held at the closest post office.

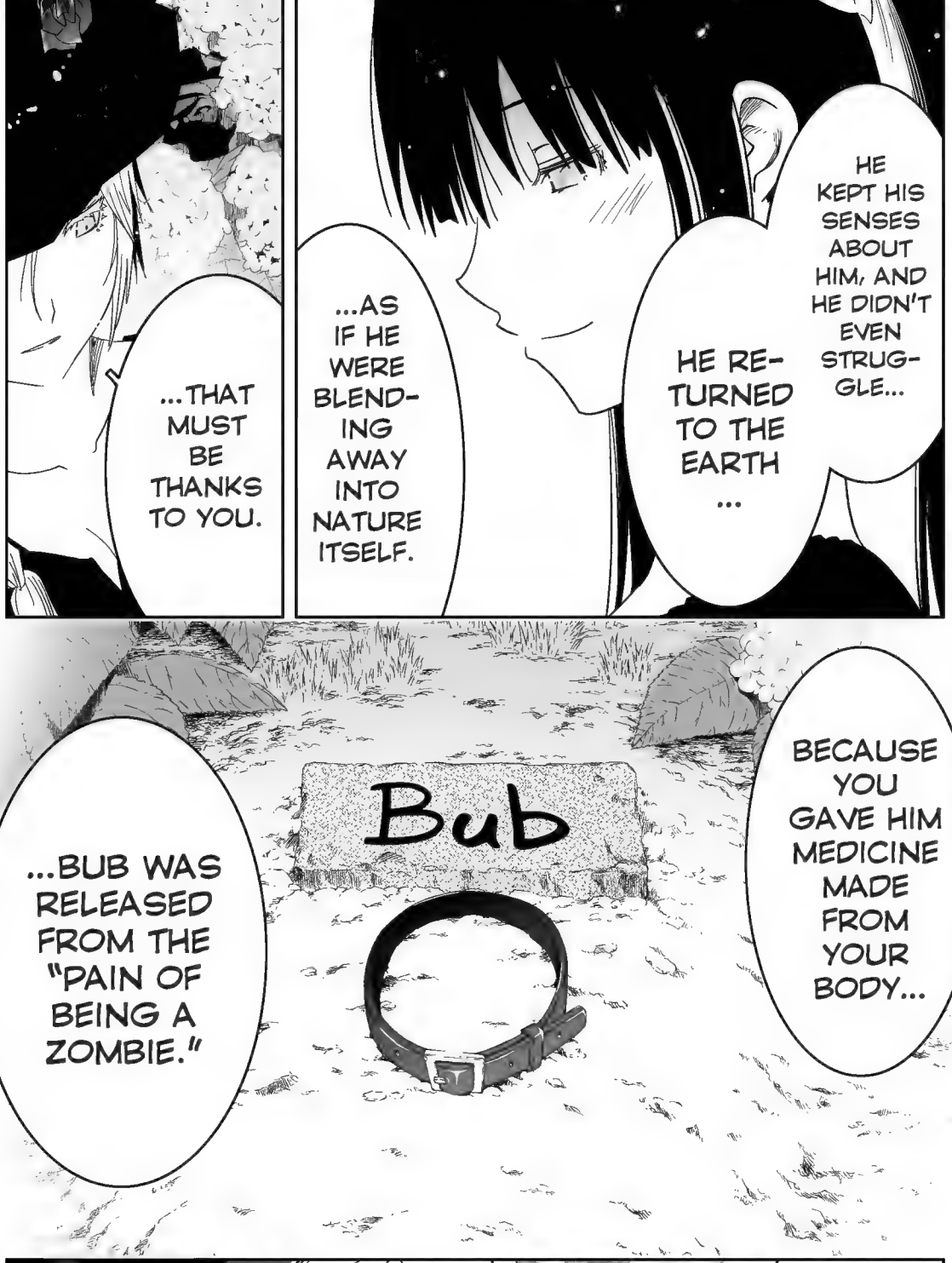

To Rea-san...
I've gotten pretty
AND THEN... THIS WAS WRITTEN IN HER LATEST LETTER...


"I'M GOING TO PICK YOU UP NEXT WEEK...
...SO PLEASE AT LEAST ATTEND THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH."

BUT ...
...HE WENT VERY PEACE-FULLY.

...
THAT CAT ...
YES... IT WAS TWO MONTHS AFTER WE LEFT TOWN...

Bub


HE KEPT HIS SENSES ABOUT HIM, AND HE DIDN'T EVEN STRUG-GLE...
HE RE-TURNED TO THE EARTH ...
...AS IF HE WERE BLEND-ING AWAY INTO NATURE ITSELF.
...THAT MUST BE THANKS TO YOU.

BECAUSE YOU GAVE HIM MEDICINE MADE FROM YOUR BODY...
Bub
...BUB WAS RELEASED FROM THE "PAIN OF BEING A ZOMBIE."

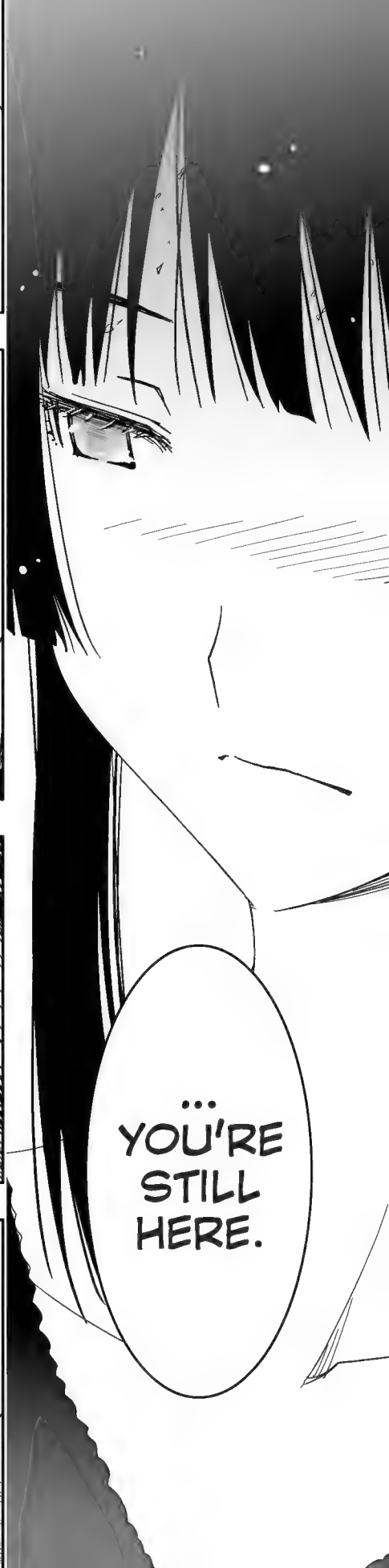
BUT... EVEN IF HE WAS RELIEVED FROM THAT...
...THERE'S NO CHANGE TO THE FACT THAT A ZOMBIE'S LIFESPAN IS ABOUT TWO TO THREE MONTHS, AFTER ALL.
AND YET ...

...IS A MYSTERY TO ME AS WELL...
SQUEEZ...
...IT TRULY ...

WELL... ZOMBIES DON'T GROW, AFTER ALL...
YOU'VE COMPLETELY SURPASSED ME IN HEIGHT, DARIN-CHAN.
OKAY, LET'S GO.

OH... NOT AT ALL. I HEARD SHE WAS COMING TO GET YOU AND THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD CHANCE...
THANK YOU FOR GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY, HIMURO-SAN.
OOOOMM

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF "BODY MEMORY"?
... HEY REA-SAN.


... YOU'RE STILL HERE.

IT IS A PHENOMENON WHERE PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD AN ORGAN TRANSPLANT— ESPECIALLY HEART TRANSPLANTS...
...EVEN HAVE "MEMORIES" FROM THE PREVIOUS LIFE OF THE ORGAN DONOR TRANSFERRED TO THEM.

BUT YOU ATE HIS HEART *WHILE HE WAS STILL ALIVE*...

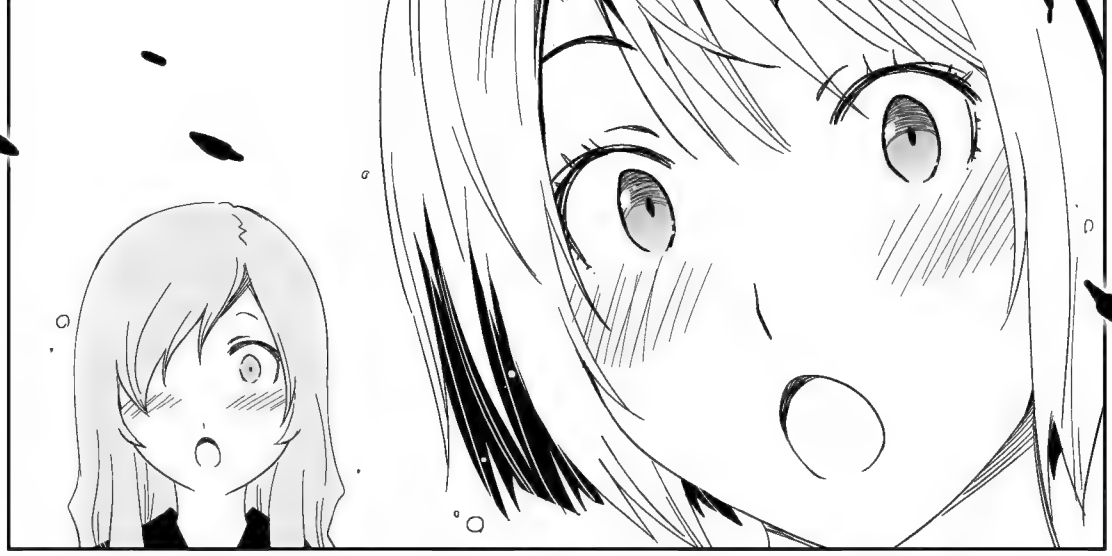
...BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE.

OOOOMMM
THEIR MEMO-RIES ARE TRANS-FERRED ...?
TO BE HONEST, THAT STORY IN AND OF ITSELF IS ONE WITHOUT ANY SCIENTIFIC BASIS...

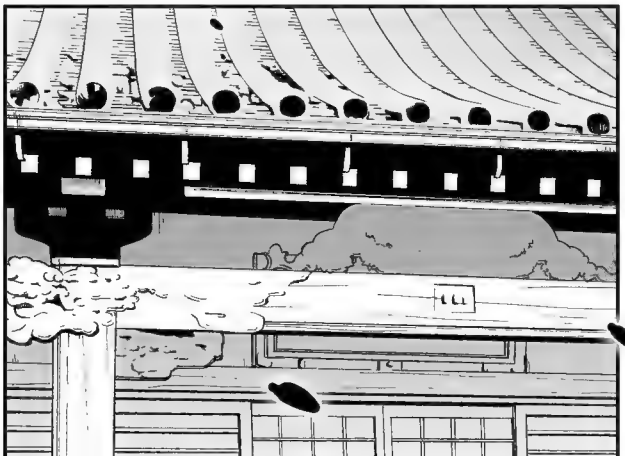
"PERHAPS I WANTED TO... KEEP ALL THE 'MEMORIES' WE HAD TOGETHER...
...I WANTED TO KEEP IT ALL TO MYSELF"
IT'S JUST A HYPO-THESIS ...
...BUT I THINK THAT DUE TO THE FACT...
...THAT YOU NOURISHED YOURSELF ON THE "MEMORIES" WITHIN HIS HEART...
...YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO EFFICIENTLY MAINTAIN BOTH YOUR MIND AND BODY AS A NEW TYPE OF ZOMBIE.

...
THAT MIGHT BE THE CASE...

寺両紫
SIGN: Shiryohji
...
WELL ...
... WE'RE ABOUT TO ARRIVE.
OOOMM
FOR KIDS



BOX TOPS: Saohji Catering



HAS IT BEEN A WHOLE YEAR ALREADY ...?

HE WAS SO FULL OF LIFE ...
IT REALLY WAS UNFORTU-NATE, WASN'T IT...?

NO ...
IT'LL LOOK STRANGE IN FRONT OF ALL THESE PEOPLE.
WHEW.

IT'S UN-FORTU-NATE THAT YOU CAN'T EAT THE CATERED MEAL...
It's pretty great.
WANT ME TO BRING SOME HY-DRAN-GEA LEAVES ?

REA-CHAN, YOU REALLY HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL.

MAYBE I SHOULD REST JUST A LITTLE BIT.
SORRY I'VE BEEN RUSHING AROUND THIS WHOLE TIME...
IT'S OKAY ...
PLUNK

WAN-KO-SAN, YOU ALSO HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT FROM THE WAY YOU WERE A YEAR AGO.
I JUST GOT A YEAR OLDER.
Sigh
WELL, BUT I DO WONDER ABOUT THAT.
IF HE WERE HERE, I WONDER IF HE WOULD'VE FOUND SOME SMALL CHANGE IN YOU, REA-CHAN.
PURSE
...
HIM BEING THE ZOMBIE MANIAC THAT HE IS, IT SEEMS LIKE HE WOULD HAVE FOUND SOMETHING.
CLA-
O-OH... ONE SECOND! REA-CHAN!! WAIT...!
SINCE YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY, STAY JUST A LITTLE LON-GER...
STAND
HUH?
... WELL THEN, I...
...THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO...

TTERP
SORRY I'M SUPER LATE...

BMP
BMP
WH
...
BMP
BMP
BMP
RE...
RE,
RE,
RE,
REA
...?!

BMP
BMP
BMP
BMP
WHAA
...?!
FURU-
YA...
KUN
...?!
BMP
BMP

WH
AM

FIRST OF ALL, TAKE SOME TIME, JUST YOU TWO ...
...AND ENJOY YOUR RE-UNION.
slide
UH ...
HEY ?!

BA-SLAM
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... THAT WANKO ...
SHE SECRETLY PLANNED THIS FROM THE START...
eee
SHHHHH...
...
...USING THE FIRST ANNIVER-SARY OF GRANDPA'S DEATH TO MAKE US MEET EACH OTHER AGAIN...

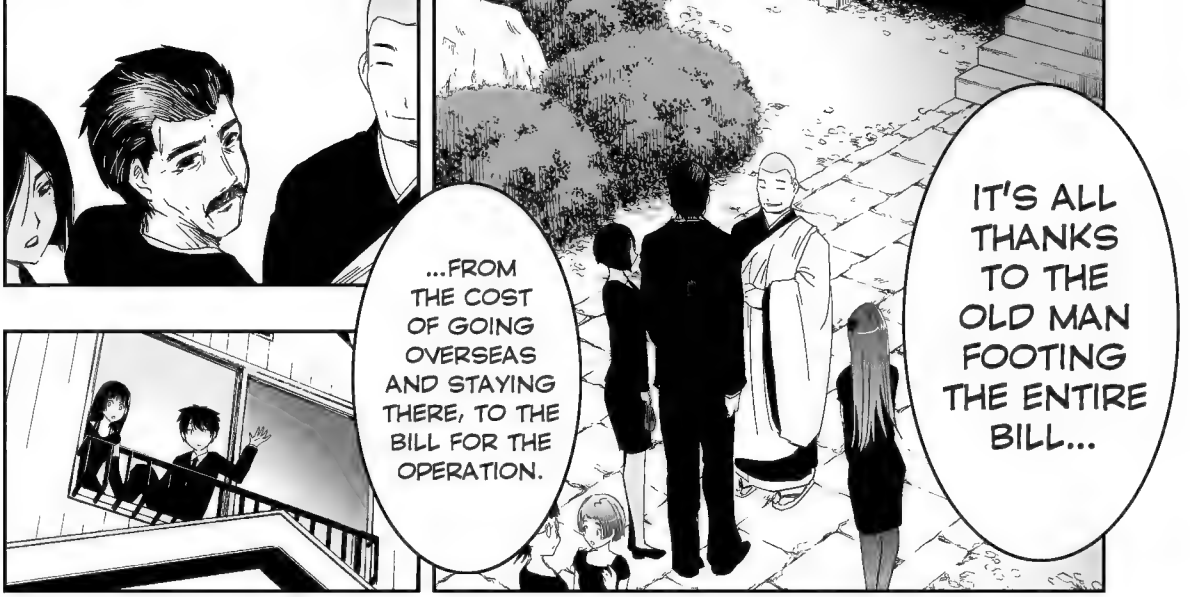
...
...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ...?
YOUR ... BODY ...
...YOU TOO, FURUYA-KUN.

...YOU SEEM WELL.

OH, LOOK, THERE HE IS.
THIS AND THAT AND EVERY-THING ELSE ...

...BUT OF COURSE, IT'S WAY BETTER THAN AN ARTIFICIAL HEART.
HM... YEAH. I'M FINE, JUST FINE.
THE TRANSPLANT OPERATION FINISHED AND I'M A BIT TIRED FROM TRAVELING FAR FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE...


IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE OLD MAN FOOTING THE ENTIRE BILL...
...FROM THE COST OF GOING OVERSEAS AND STAYING THERE, TO THE BILL FOR THE OPERATION.

HE CAME ALL THE WAY TO MEET ME AT THE AIRPORT TODAY, TOO.
WELL, THE TWO OF THEM GETTING BACK TOGETHER IS THE THING THAT SURPRISED ME THE MOST, THOUGH...

AT THAT TIME ...
...I WAS PREPARED TO HAVE EVERYTHING EATEN BY YOU, REA...
WHEN MY HEART WAS EATEN, EVERYONE CARRIED ME OUTSIDE...

...YES, I HEARD ABOUT IT LATER ...
I... COMPLETELY THOUGHT THAT I HAD EATEN ALL OF YOU...
BUT YOU KNOW, EVEN I WAS SURPRISED ...
EVEN THOUGH MY HEART HAD BEEN EATEN AND I BLED A LOT...
I... WAS STILL CONSCIOUS AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED.
WHEN I ASKED DARIN WHY, SHE THOUGHT IT WAS LIKELY THE SAME AS WITH GRANDPA...
THAT DUE TO THE FACT THAT I'D RECEIVED SO MANY NON-LETHAL DOSAGES OF ZOMBIE POISON FROM REA UNTIL THEN...
...I MAY HAVE ENDED UP WITH "A BODY DULLED TO DEATH"...

AS A RESULT, IT ENDED UP SAVING MY LIFE— IT'S QUITE A WONDER TO ME.
SOME-HOW, I'VE ALREADY BECOME A MONSTER... I GUESS.
FWISH...
SO...

I HEARD THAT YOU'VE BEEN LIVING AROUND THE FOREST THE WHOLE TIME SINCE THEN... BUT IT WOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM WITH ME IF YOU CAME BACK...
...
...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY AT ALL...
... ABOUT HAVING EATEN MY HEART OR ANY-THING.

...I ACTUALLY RATHER LIKE LIVING IN THE FOREST.
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT...? IT'S LIKE I JUST STARTED LIVING ON MY OWN FOR THE FIRST TIME...
I'VE BEEN BUILDING A WONDER-FUL GARDEN ...
...BE-COMING FRIENDS WITH THE WILD BIRDS...
I'VE BEEN ENJOYING MY LIFE QUITE A LOT, SO I'M STILL FINE.
...
BUT ...
IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME FOR ME TO WORRY.
FULL OF LIFE EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE DEAD.
...HEH, THAT REALLY DOES SOUND LIKE YOU.

I GUESS I'M LONELY BECAUSE BUB-CHAN PASSED AWAY FIRST...
... YEAH, I KNOW ...
SSHAHAHH
WE WERE ABLE TO MEET...
...THANKS TO BUB, AFTER ALL...

HUH ?
HOW MUCH DO YOU REMEMBER... OF WHAT HAPPENED THAT TIME, REA?
COUGHH...
... UHMM ...
NOW THAT YOU MEN-TION IT...
WHILE ... I WAS BEING EATEN ...
...THERE WERE "SOME WORDS" I CALLED OUT TO YOU...
BA-BUMP

BA-BUMP
ER... YOU DON'T REMEMBER, DO YOU? HAHAHA...
...
WELL... THAT'S FINE...
I ALSO...
...HAD SOMETHING TO SAY TO YOU, TOO... FURUYA-KUN.

BA-BUMP
JUST ONE ...
...!
GULPP
BA-BUMP
... "PHRASE" THAT I NEEDED TO CONVEY TO YOU...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
...THAT IS...
BA-BUMP
BUMP

THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL.

From here on…
Forever more…
Wherever you'll be…
Until you rot away…

The end

Something like an afterword

My sincere thanks for staying with me through to the final, 11th volume. This ended up being in serialization quite a bit longer than I had planned in the beginning, but somehow, I was able to end it without issue.

Among all of the serialized manga I've written up to this point, this one ended up on the dark side, content-wise, and I ended it without bringing it to a depressing end. That said, I also kept a balance in which it wasn't overly happy, too.

As for how long Rea and Chihiro were able to be together... I'll leave that to your imagination.

I can't thank you enough for your passionate readership.

By the way, starting on the next page, I've put together a side story that borrows the settings from the main book, and in a way it's drawn as a play on a parallel-world kind of thing. Please enjoy it without thinking too deeply.

Well then, let's meet again in my new work.

Hattori Mitsuru.

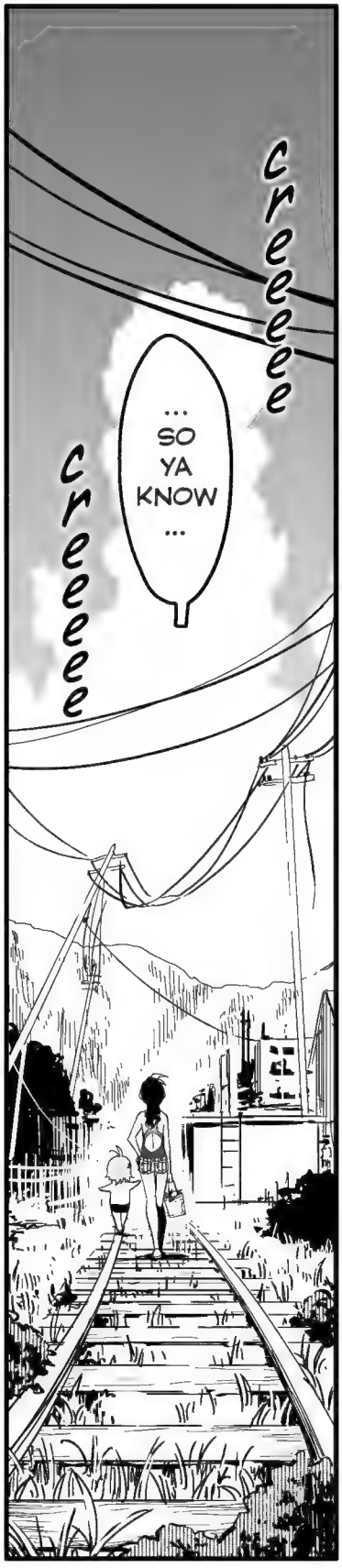
SHIROBAKO
s Sankarea if s
This is...
...a mysterious tale...
...that a certain pair experiences in a certain area.
HATTORI MITSURU

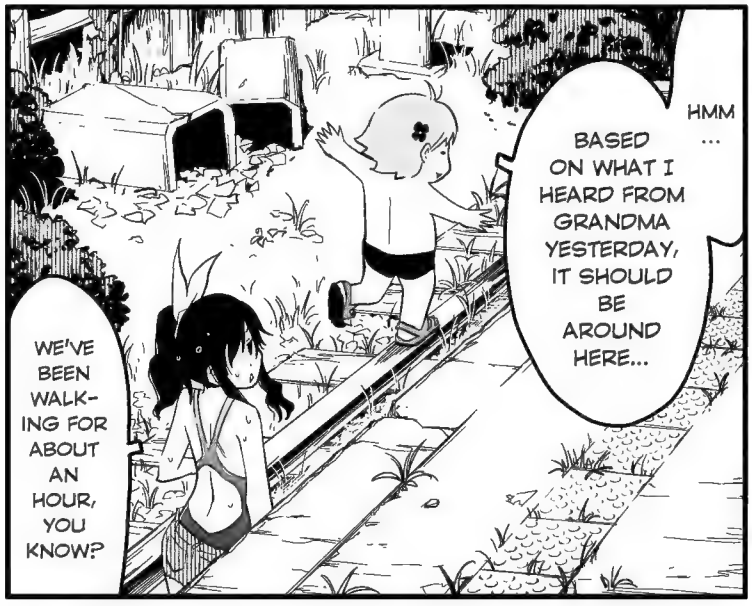
GEEZ...
HEYYY, WAIT UP, TAMA! YOU MOVE TOO FAST!
TAP
BIG SISTER RAI, YOU'RE THE ONE GOING SLOW!!
TAP
TAP
TAP
FLUFF
COME ON.
I WOULDN'T BE WATCHING YOU OR WHATEVER IF GRANDMA DIDN'T TELL ME TO.

IDIOT.
BA-SKSHHH
SHAAAHH!
CATCH
YEAHH
IT'S JUST UP HERE, I'M TELL-ING YOU!!
OH!
TAP
TAP
TAP
HEY... TAMA?
...
SSSSHHHH
SKRR
HUH...
HEY!
SKR
SKRR
AN-SWER ME...!!

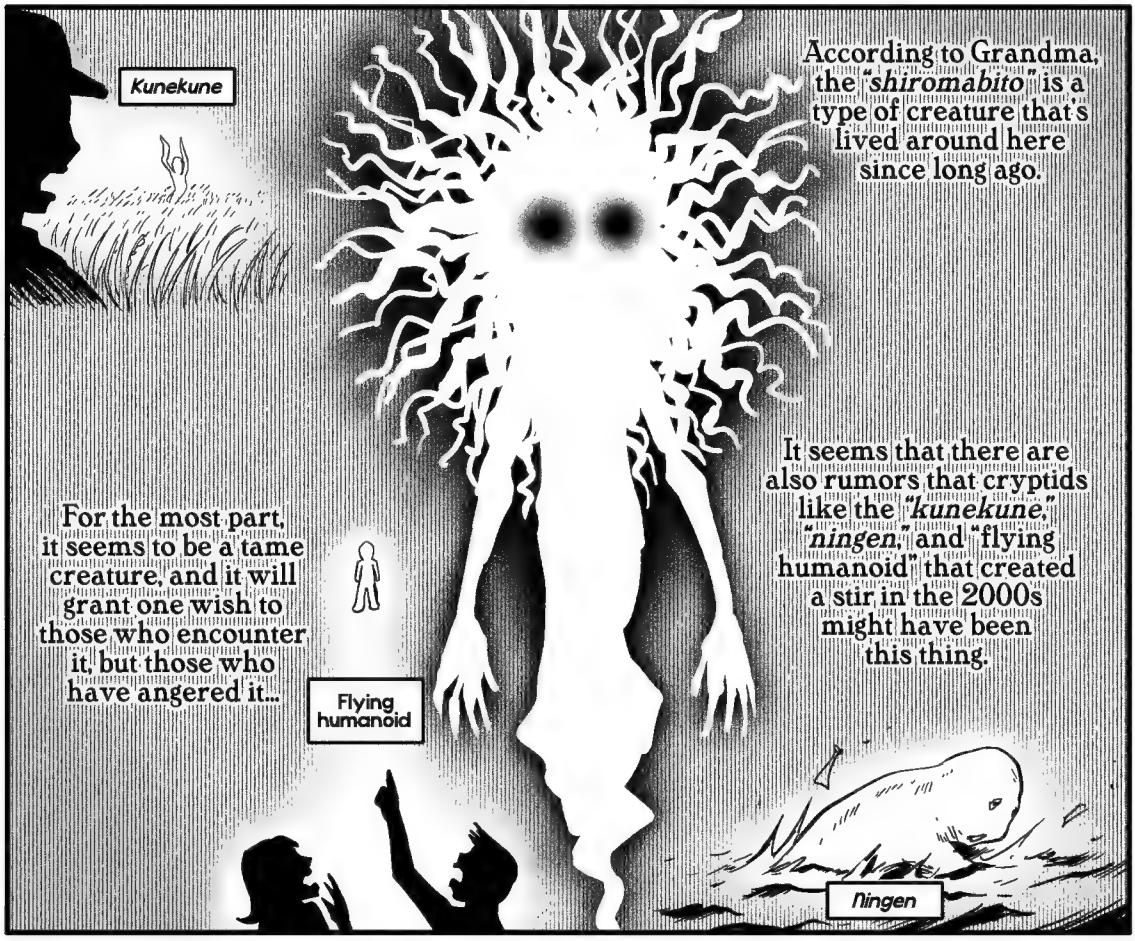
TA-
D*CK
!
Woosh
It's d*ck abuuuse.
feh
I WONDER WHY CREATURES WITH D*CK'S ON 'EM ARE SO ANNOYING?
AHG-YAHHH!
TWITCH
TWITCH
ZIP-PO
BURN

ARE WE STILL NOT AT THE TUNNEL YOU'RE HEADING FOR?
I'm already covered in sweat.
Shiyocho


creeeee
creeeee
... SO YA KNOW ...


HMM ...
BASED ON WHAT I HEARD FROM GRANDMA YESTERDAY, IT SHOULD BE AROUND HERE...
WE'VE BEEN WALKING FOR ABOUT AN HOUR, YOU KNOW?

I MEAN, WHAT'S THIS "SHIRO-WHAT-EVER", ANY-WAYS?
IT'S "SHIRO-MA-BITO" !!


Kunekune
According to Grandma, the "*shiromabito*" is a type of creature that's lived around here since long ago.
For the most part, it seems to be a tame creature, and it will grant one wish to those who encounter it, but those who have angered it...
Flying humanoid
It seems that there are also rumors that cryptids like the "*kunekune*," "*ningen*," and "flying humanoid" that created a stir in the 2000s might have been this thing.
Ningen

HISSSS
"WILL HAVE THEIR HEARTS EATEN...!"
ANY-WAY ...
HEY, LISTEN TO WHAT GRAND-MA SAID!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

BAAM
ISN'T THAT IT?
creee
cree
THE TUN-NEL.
HMM, IT'S GOT QUITE THE ATMO-SPHERE, DOESN'T IT?!
...
plip
plip

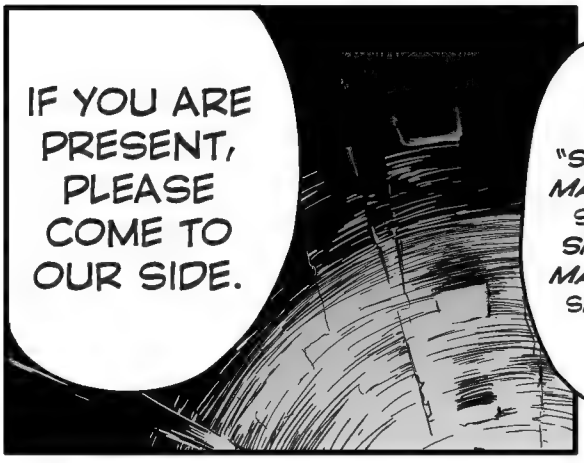
OKAY, BUT IT'S SO DARK THAT WE CAN'T SEE ANYTHING, YOU KNOW?
SO... HOW FAR DO WE NEED TO GO INSIDE?
GLOW
UHM... TO THE PLACE WHERE THERE'S A BIG STAIN ON THE WALL...
THUMP
!
SKRCH
OWW!
OUCH...
ER...

WAHHHH!
...
WHAT, IT'S JUST A STAIN ON THE WALL...
!!!
OH, SO IS THIS THE PLACE WE WERE HEADING TO?
OUUCH ... I SCRAPED MY KNEE.
OH... ALL RIGHT, THEN. JUST WAIT A SECOND. I'LL MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CEREMONY...
twish...
HUHH ?
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT ?
WHY DO YOU NEED SOMETHING LIKE HYDRAN-GEA?
THEY SAY THAT FOR SOME REASON, THE SCENT OF FRESH HYDRANGEA WILL DRAW THE CREATURE OUT...
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

HUH? MY WOUND DOESN'T HURT ...
?
hnff
?
PAT
PAT
OKAYYY, EVERY-THING'S READY!

...?!
I FEEL LIKE SOME-THING JUST TOUCHED MY KNEE...
ER.

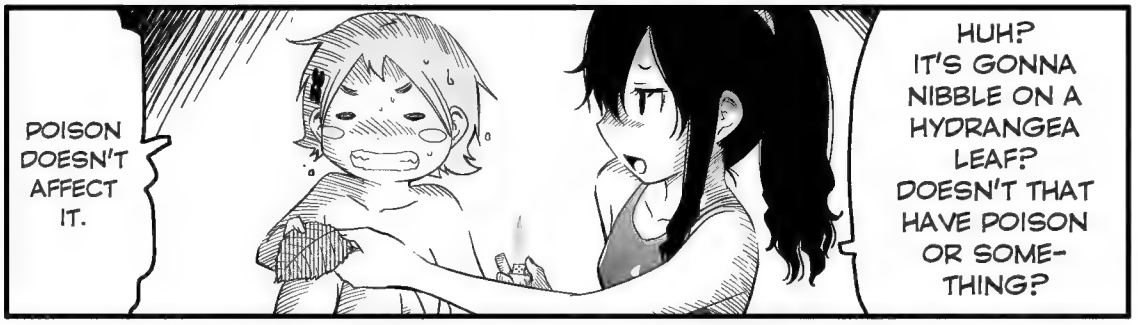
SMOOCH

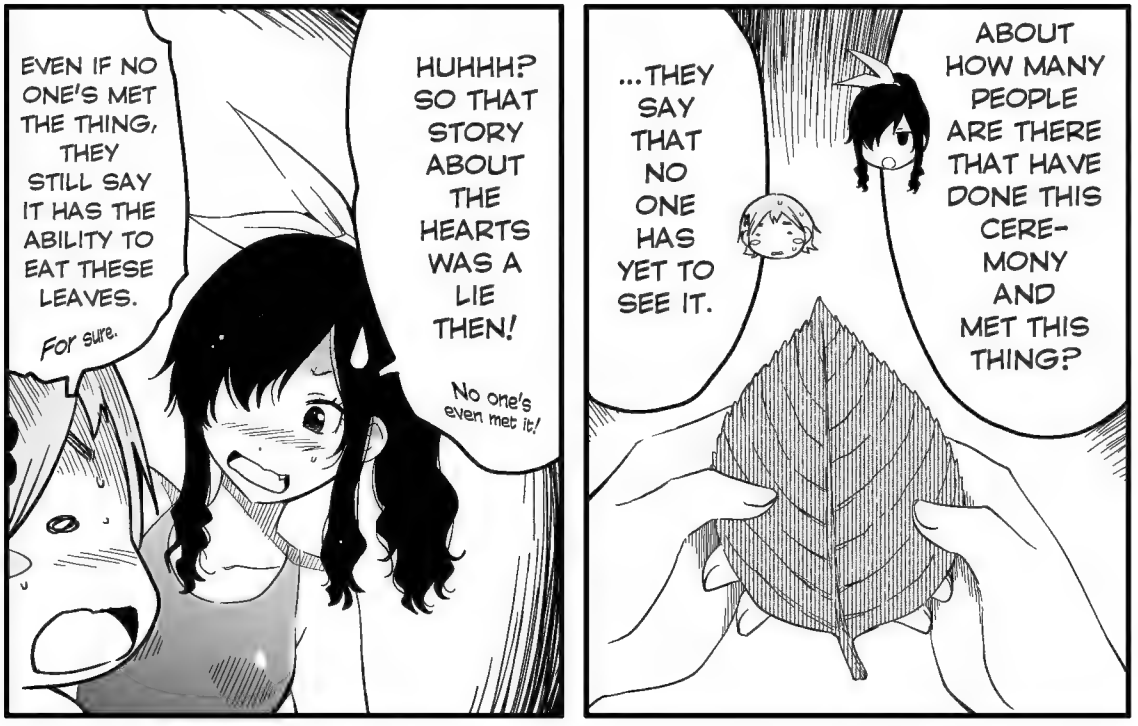

IF YOU ARE PRESENT, PLEASE COME TO OUR SIDE.

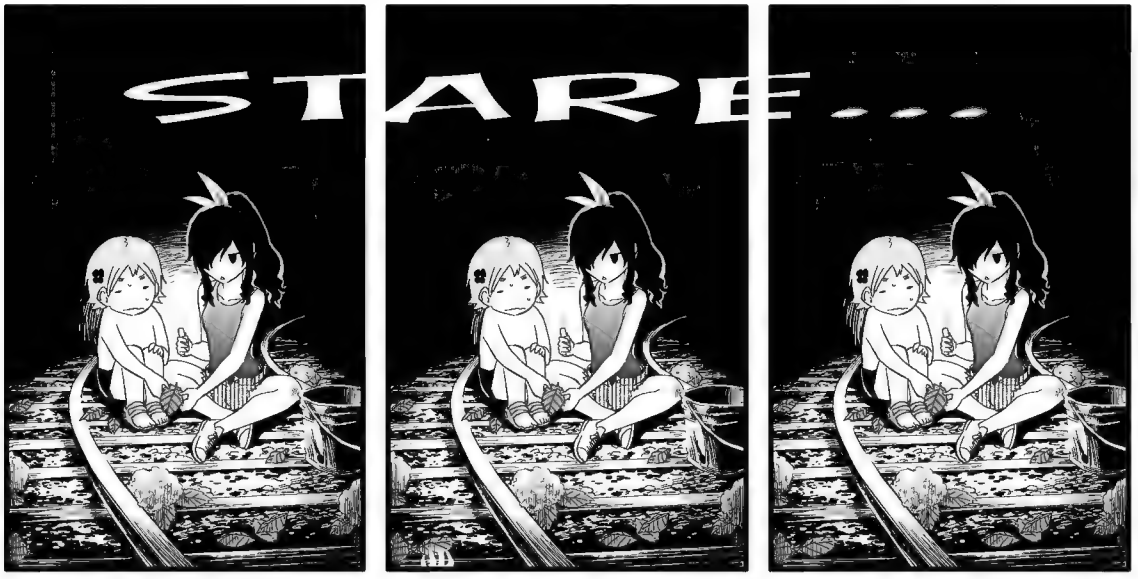
"SHIRO-MABITO-SAMA, SHIRO-MABITO-SAMA...

BUH-B-BIG SISTER RAI, THERE'S NO MORE TURNING BACK... OKAY ?!
I'M GONNA DO IT! I'M GONNA DO IT, OKAY ...?!
HURRY UP AND DO IT ...

IF YOU CAN COME TO OUR SIDE, WE AWAIT YOU.
PLEASE NIBBLE ON SOME HYDRAN-GEA."


HUH? IT'S GONNA NIBBLE ON A HYDRANGEA LEAF? DOESN'T THAT HAVE POISON OR SOME-THING?
POISON DOESN'T AFFECT IT.


ABOUT HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE THERE THAT HAVE DONE THIS CERE-MONY AND MET THIS THING?
...THEY SAY THAT NO ONE HAS YET TO SEE IT.
HUHHH? SO THAT STORY ABOUT THE HEARTS WAS A LIE THEN!
No one's even met it!
EVEN IF NO ONE'S MET THE THING, THEY STILL SAY IT HAS THE ABILITY TO EAT THESE LEAVES.
For sure.


STARE...

WAHHH
I'M TELLING YOU, YOU CAN'T LET GO...
...DURING THE CERE-MONY!!
!
I CAN'T DO THIS ANY-MORE...
STAND
AHH!
HUHH?
DON'T SAY "HUH," HOLD ON AL-READY!!
NO... WAIT A SEC...
THE TIP OF THAT...
MMM
HASN'T IT BEEN NIB-BLED...?

RH...
WHHO-OOO ARE YOU-UU...
GRR-ARR-RR...
GR... RARR...

...THA-
AATTT
CALLLL
UPOOON
MEEE-
EEE...
WAAAAHHHH

THUNK...
YOOU-UUUU TWOO-OO...
WHHA-AAT DO YOUU NEED FROM MEE-EE...

UH... AH... UHMM ...
THIS... I'M JUST WATCHING THIS KID, TAMATO AND... IN SHORT, TO KILL TIME... WE...
NO!! UM... I... W... WANT TO ASK YOU A FAVOR ...!!
AHN/MAH/MAH/MAH/MAH

WHAT ISSS IT? TRY TELLING MEEE...
OHHHH... A FAAAA-VORRRR ...?
sweatt
HUH? UH? UHM... I...
YESSSS !! I WANT ALL THE PREMIUM MEDALS FROM "ZOMBIE WATCH" !!
UM... I WISH... I COULD GET CLOSER TO MOCHIDA-KUN FROM MY CLASS AT SCHOOL...
VA-WHOOM
I SHAAALL GRANT YOUUUR WISS-SHES...
... VERY WELL...

GWEEE
HUH ?!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS TOLD !!
... WILL LET ME EAAATT A PAAART OF YOUR BOODY-YY...
BUUUTT, ONE OF YOUUU ...
MMMM

HUR-RYYY UUUP ...
... AND DO IIIT ...
... THEN ...
...GO WITH TAMA-TO'S D*CK !!
NUDE!!
NIIHE...

FLASH
GYAAAHHH

...
HUH ...
FLUTTER
FLUTTER

I... I DON'T REALLY UNDER-STAND, BUT LET'S GO NOW WHILE WE CAN...!
And this was how the two of them...
...barely escaped with their lives from the tunnel where the *"Shiromabito"* dwelled.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?! HURRY UP!!
TAP
TAP TAP
... YEAH.
DO NOT ENTER
I FOR-GOT TO SAY IT...
...BUT THANK YOU FOR THE FRESH HYDRAN-GEA.

SAY HELLO TO YOUR GRANDMA FOR ME, TOO.
The End

~Bonus Gallery~

* Preview illustrations that ran in the magazine a month before it was serialized.

* Mid-summer greeting illustration drawn for a Betsu-Maga project.

"Only God Knows"

Printed in Issue 1 of "Magazine Special" for the year 2014

*A 4-panel comic drawn previously for Magazine Special.

Bye-bye.

TRANSLATION NOTES

Pages 123 & 124: Darin's poor writing skills
Darin is not as skilled at Japanese as she claims to be and in the original text she writes some of her letters backwards. This is also present in the English text to reflect this fact.

Page 124: First anniversary of one's death
In the Japanese Buddhist tradition, memorial services may be held a number of times following one's death. After the initial funeral, services may be held on Obon (Japanese festival ofthe dead) on the first, third, seventh, and thirteenth anniversary of one's death.

Page 126: Body memory
Directly translated from Japanese as "memory transference," this is a pseudoscientific concept which postulates that memories, such as past trauma, can be transferred from a donor to recipient by way of organ transplant.

Page 154: Ningen
A word that just translates as "human" in Japanese, ningen is a type of huge, vaguely human-shaped, whale-like cryptid that fishermen supposedly saw in the Pacific ocean in the 1990s.

Page 154: Kunekune
A contemporary, internet-created, humanoid cryptid that is supposedly long, thin and vaguely human shaped. It supposedly lives in wide fields, and is seen wiggling its limbs in the breeze from far away.

Page 164: Zombie Watch
A parody of the popular Japanese children's animation and game, "Yo-kai Watch," that has collectible rare medals for children to collect.

Page 172: Betsu-Maga
The abbreviation for Bessatsu Shonen Magazine, the monthly manga magazine published by Kodansha in which Sankarea originally ran.

Page 173: Hatsu-mode
In the four-panel comic on this page, Rea and Darin are participating in the first visit to a Shinto shrine for the New Year, which is known as hatsu-mode in Japanese.

Eternally

...And so it is said...
...in the depths of space....
...lived floating freely...
...that the two of them...
...forever more...
...where there are no putrefying bacteria...
Fin..
OH BROTHER, YOU'RE TAKING OUTER SPACE TOO LIGHTLY.
huf huf
huf
...IF WE DID IT LIKE THAT THEN YOU COULD BE OKAY AS A ZOMBIE FOREVER, RIGHT?
RI-IGHT!

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